





THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

Vol. I.]

JULY, 1913.

[ No. 5.

## Editorial Notes

EVERYONE who reads the newspapers has seen by now the letter written jointly by the Chairman of the Planters Association and the Proprietors' Labour Federation. But we have reproduced it in this number of the *Gazette*, as there is much to be said about it. First and perhaps most important is the fact proved that the P. L. F. is alive and advancing.

In a former number we referred to the Federation's struggle to gain the support necessary to enable its work to be completed, and that struggle is still going on, but more hopefully than before.

The new rules, already widely circulated and discussed, provide for a survey of the movements and indebtedness of labour; and they provide as well for the protection of incoming coolies from many of the evils of our present position, and for a firm check on the further increase of indebtedness. But they leave untouched other great problems which have for several years exercised us greatly. Now we learn that it is not the intention of the Federation to limit its usefulness to these stated reforms, but that all difficulties in sight are to be grasped, studied, and ameliorated. We were right in claiming in these pages that there is yet time for us to face our difficulties in our own way without crying to Government to lend us brains and energy.

Before coming to the four main planks of the Federation's platform there is one other point to be attended to, and that is the responsibility accepted by the Chairman of the Planters' Association. By putting his name to this joint statement he has pledged himself to tackle these reforms; with the assistance of the P. L. F., if possible, and it is his wish to have the powerful aid of that executive body, but in any case to tackle them. There are very obvious reasons why the P. L. F. is more able than the Planters' Association to enforce reforms, so obvious that their recapitulation would be unnecessary were it not that people do actually exist among us who are unable to see them. From its composition the Planters' Association is an advisory body. It has no power to compel the managers of estates to bow to its decrees, none that is to say, but the power of public censure if they do not. The P. L. F., on the other hand, represents the interests of Proprietors who can give orders that their employés shall obey the rules they have subscribed to. It is clearly the part of the Planters' Association to help the P. L. F. by its advice,

and indeed equally the part of the P. L. F. to consult the P. A. on all occasions over matter of principle. These bodies have remained too aloof, have been too little interdependent for mutual support and for true efficiency. But there is now a plain indication that they are to combine in effective action.

Taking the four main planks, as they are laid down, we would observe that the importance of the first was dealt with in our last issue. New country cannot be opened to us in India without some direct recruiting agency, and little doubt exists that this will very shortly be established. The question of reducing the existing advances have been the subject of many schemes brought forward by the Bogawantalawa and Maskeliya Planters' Associations, by Mr. Sheridan Patterson, verbally by Mr. Joseph Fraser, as a clause in the Matale resolution at our last General Meeting, and originally by those indefatigable investigators Messrs. C. A. Grant and H. Scoble Nicholson. But all have failed to gain support. And the reason was obvious. They had no exact survey of the evils they proposed to deal with. This is now provided for, and after the new rules of the P. L. F. have run for a year there will be in the hands of their Committee a mass of statistics, such as Planters' have desired but never obtained before. What Messrs. Nicholson and Grant tried to obtain through their Plebiscite we shall get as a matter of course.

The importance of obtaining expert medical advice was dealt with by this *Gazette* in an earlier issue, when it was shown by figures that an increase of 1% in the working efficiency of our labour force was worth a quarter of a million rupees to the planting industries. Already a note on the same subject had been written for this issue before the letter under review had appeared, and it stands unaltered. Humanity and mercantile prudence alike demand that we should follow this up.

The fourth point, the registry of all employés of labour is one on which much remains to be done before we approach Government, but it seems we have a good case. It is not easy to see how any employer of labour can justify himself in remaining outside a combination which has so much good work in hand. Let him read again the motto of the Planters' Association. *Unitas Salus Nostra*.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy, 14th June, 1913.

UNITAS SALUS NOSTRA.

THE EDITOR,  
*Planting Gazette*.

Sir,

In consequence of expressions of opinion made both verbally and in writing, we, Chairmen respectively of the Planters' Association and the Proprietors' Labour Federation, met to discuss

the labour situation and decided, after conference, to make a joint statement.

The Proprietors' Labour Federation proposed new rules are now in the hands of all estate proprietors and their agents. In addition to the principles therein elaborated, the Federation fully intends to tackle other pressing problems connected with the welfare and increase of our labour force, and we therefore think it advisable to point out its further policy.

Should the Federation obtain the requisite majority for reconstruction, it is intended that all matters appertaining to labour shall be taken in hand, first and foremost being the vital question of recruiting or assisting recruiting from the Coast.

It is proposed that the Planters' Association shall be represented on the P. L. F. Committee to advise on all questions of labour, and among the most important of such questions we would indicate the following: (1.) Coast recruiting; (2) the gradual reduction of existing advances; (3) the possible employment of one or more medical experts to study and advise on the general sanitation of our labour force, with a view to increasing its working efficiency; (4) the bringing of all employers under the labour ordinance.

In making this statement of the Federation's forward policy, it is our sincere hope that those who have hitherto held out will now feel justified in giving their support.

Yours, etc.,  
(Signed) R. HUYSE ELIOT,  
Chairman, P. L. F.

DR. BAHR has completed his investigation into the causes of sprue, and has sailed for England with a mass of material to work up before his report can be written. On behalf of the Planters' Association we take this opportunity of bidding him good-bye and of expressing a hope that he may soon come back again and follow up the good work he has already done. For there can be no doubt that a tremendous lot remains to be done to increase the working efficiency of our labour force. When the amount spent on cultivation and on labour recruiting is considered it simply appalls one to think how we acquiesce in the continued existence of such diseases as malaria and anchyllostomiasis on estates. We leave so much to Government. And in matters medical Government is an already over-worked official willing enough to do what he can, and courteous and sympathetic, but stifled by departmental administrative work. Why should we leave so much to Government? We don't expect Government to advise us as to our investments, and money spent in the scientific study of disease is, to planters as a body, the best of all investments. If this were a philanthropic magazine we might add that it would also be a very noble endeavour. We are told that it should not be a very difficult matter to rid our estates of Anchyllostomiasis. It has been done in other places, Honduras for instance. The effect would be immense; much greater than Hospital returns at present indicate, for it is said that Anchyllostomiasis is the primary cause of many deaths which are incorrectly diagnosed and put down to something else. Why then do we muddle along without any noticeable improvement? Simply through ignorance of facts. Instead of securing the services of a man like Dr. Bahr for a year or so to study one single disease, we ought to have a regular supply of keen scientists, paid by a self-imposed Cess on all estates, nosing out all our vile microbe enemies and teaching us how to fight them effectually and economically. Young men, like Dr. Bahr, who are keen enough to slog along country roads in the sun or rain, and to whom the corpse of a pauper cooly is every bit as interesting as the impaired digestion of a millionaire.

In this number will be found the lecture which Dr. Bahr delivered in the Planters' Association Buildings at Kandy on the 14th of February last. It is hoped that by reprinting it in the *Gazette* it will be preserved for handy reference.

This magazine is assuming quite a Military aspect. In the first number we had a trumpet call from Col. E. Gordon Reeves, and in the third an appeal from Lieut.-Col. W. H. Biddulph, and now in this, the fifth, Mr. W. A. Tytler stirs us up to arm against war with Germany. Mr. Tytler has seen war itself, and his adventures in South Africa were many in number and varied in kind. Of course he is right in appealing to us to fit ourselves for war. Discipline is one of those things intrinsically good in itself, even if the Volunteer soldier never shoot at a more dangerous foe than a target. The training must be good and the fact of being trained may avert trouble. Indeed every community of British in this continent or in Africa is in a way a Garrison, and should be ready at a pinch to prove it. But why drag in Germany? Apart from scare-mongering journalism and artificial hatred, is it not far more likely that the great civilized nations of the West will fight side by side, when they do fight, rather than face to face?

It may interest the more pious-minded among our readers to learn that the Victoria Commemoration Buildings in Kandy, known more commonly as the P. A., contains an object of worship. Kandyan villagers, wandering round the sights of Maha Nuwara, the Great City, sometimes look in through the iron gates of the P. A. and see at the end of the passage the marble bust of Queen Victoria. It is shining white and has a dark background throwing it into relief. And on more than one occasion villagers have been seen to raise their hands to it in an attitude of worship. It is probable that they think the passage is a shrine. Perhaps they think the image is an idol worshipped by the Planters.

## VOLUNTEERING IN CEYLON.

I want to have a talk about Volunteering and Military matters from an Amateur's point of view. I am not altogether an amateur, but my soldiering experiences were short tho' severe.

Now I don't think you boys realise how near we have been lately to a terrible war. There is one man stands out, an honour to Britain, and that is Sir Edward Grey. The extreme patience, tact, firmness, that he has shown in this awful crisis was the only thing that brought about peace. But suppose that war had broken out and England had been dragged into it, do you suppose you youngsters would be allowed to remain in your snug billets? An European war would bleed us hard, and all able-bodied men would have to turn out. We predominated so greatly over the Boers that the malingerers and dodgers, etc., were not missed. I have no doubt you have been reading Lord Robert's appeal to the Nation. It is pity that the word "conscription" has become odious on account of

Napoleon's merciless drafts on the manhood of the French Nation. But it is stern fact that the country is in danger. The advance of Germany, as a Naval as well as a Military Power, has upset all old-fashioned ideas. The concentration of the Fleet in the Channel and North Sea was a move absolutely vital. Germany is not yet strong enough to tackle us, and we have the French and Japanese on our side, but the menace hovering over should rouse us.

teer forces still survives in the Republic would be a military enigma were it not known that such is the case in every nation where men's aspirations are measured by the ephemeral and immaterial.

"Volunteers are purely a mediaeval institution, effective only in those ages when weapons of warfare differed little or not at all from those used by men during times of peace: when, in fact, the mechanism of war

## NOTICE.

### Subscriptions due for 1913.

**PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION**—Rs. 12.50 (to be paid through their respective District Planters' Association.)

**COAST AGENCY**—At the rate of 30 cts. per cultivated acre.

**PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND**—Estates Rs. 25. Private Subscriptions Rs. 10.

*If subscribers to the Planters' Association, the Planters' Benevolent Fund and the Coast Agency will kindly send in their subscriptions at once, instead of awaiting separate individual duns, it will save a great deal of time and considerable expense to this Office.*

**JOHN STILL,**

*Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.*

Stationary tactics are impossible. They lead to stagnation which is the beginning of decay. And there America's danger is apparent. They have too easy surroundings. Struggle means progress.

Now what does Homer Lea say about "Volunteering?"

"No one is justified in saying that there would be no defence of this Republic in event of invasion: such a statement would be manifestly untrue. But the defence would be no greater nor worse than that heretofore made by nations heterogeneous and opulent as this Republic: a defence, in innumerable instances, Alamoian, heroic, even Gracchian, but in the end proving to be no more stable than a defence of tumble-weeds and loud noises.

"Why public confidence in the infallibility of Volun-

teering, however good, and in the absence of any stern law compelling young men to go and be drilled, disciplined, and damned, the present form of soldiering is an outlet of patriotism, but of no value in a military sense.

I will quote the Marquis of Salisbury as a conclusion.

"There have been great Colonial and maritime powers, four or five, but they have always fallen.

"... If we ever allow our defences at sea to fall to such a point of inefficiency that is as easy, or nearly as easy, to cross the sea as it is to cross a land frontier, our great Empire, stretching to the ends of the earth, supported by maritime force in every part of it, will come clattering to the ground when a blow at the metropolis of England is struck."

W. A. TYTLER.

## STRENGTH RETURN.

**CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS**  
**FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1913.**

Cor.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.									Colour-Sergeant.				Sergeant.		Lance-Sergts. & Corp's.		Sergt.-Bugler.		Buglers.		Privates and Lance-Corporals.		Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt.-Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.	Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts. & Corp's.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.										
A.	Staff	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kelany Valley	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	28	...	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	9	...	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
B.	Kandy	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	17	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Matale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	13	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	7	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	8	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
C.	Mattakelle	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	9	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Agrapatna	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
D.	Maskeliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	7	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	5	...	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	7	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
E.	Haputale	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	18	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Badulla	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	16	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Uda Pussellawa	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	10	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	10	...	76	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
F.	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	24	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	12	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Morawak Korale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
G.	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	4	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Colombo	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	42	...	49	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ambegamuwa	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	8	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
H.	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	15	...	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Colombo	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	...	57	...	68	68	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	16	...	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
* TOTAL STRENGTH		...	1	2	11	8	6	2	1	1	4	19	19	1	5	391	471	471								
Strength by last Return		...	1	2	11	8	5	2	1	1	4	21	20	1	5	379	461									
Increase Since		...	1										12													
Decrease Since		...											2					1								
* C. P. R. C. Reserve		...	...										Increase					...	...	10						
Total Strength including Reserve		...	521										Reserve Increase					...	...	3						

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,  
 Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

## CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

## Strength Return for Month Ending May, 1913.

DETAIL.																					Instructional Staff.					
	Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Sergt.	Farr Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sergt. Tptrs.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Sergt. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet'y. Officer.	Total.
Regtl. Staff.	1	...	1	2	1	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	1	1	1	...	...	3
A. Squadron.																										
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	22	26	27	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ II. „	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	11	13	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ III. „	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	21	24	25	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ IV. „	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	1	20	28	29	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL...	...	...	1	1	4	6	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	7	6	1	74	94	100	...	...	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron.																										
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	10	14	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ II. „	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	9	13	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ III. „	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	22	25	26	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ IV. „	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	12	16	17	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL...	...	...	1	1	4	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	1	1	3	2	3	53	71	77	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	...	1	2	1	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	7	6	1	74	94	100	...	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	1	1	3	2	3	53	71	77	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	2	3	10	1	17	...	...	1	2	2	9	1	2	10	8	4	127	166	183	1	1	1	...	3
Total Strength last Return	1	2	3	10	1	17	...	...	1	2	2	9	1	2	10	8	4	128	167	184	1	1	1	...	3	
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sqms.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	1	1	1	...	3
Wanting to Complete	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	2	2	...	...	3	...	4	57	68	69	...	...	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	6	...	10	1	1	...	1	...	5	...	2	...	...	13	23	33	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve...	2	3	5	16	1	27	1	1	1	3	2	14	1	2	12	8	4	140	189	216	1	1	1	...	...	3

G. H. STEVENSON, CAPTAIN,

ADJT. C. M. R. &amp; C. P. R. C.

## THE FOUR PLANTING COLONELS.

A SONNET.

## I. C. M. R. (Retired.)

Perched like an Eagle on the Wiltshire Heights  
 He's craving for the past with heavy heart;  
 And tho' he led his men in peaceful fights,  
 Yet as a Patriot he has taken part.  
 In teaching young ideas how to shoot,  
 And how to drill, and how a man should ride,  
 And also taught them how to fight on foot  
 And his success has been our Island's Pride.

## II. C. P. R. C. (Retired.)

Another Colonel's sitting on the shelf  
 A sportsman popular and a soldier keen  
 His men all loved him for his own bright self  
 His tact and kindness leaves his memory green.  
 His able smartness won the men's respect;  
 With velvet glove above the armoured fist.  
 He stirred no anger when he did correct  
 No man his genial chidings could resist.

## III. C. P. R. C. (Active.)

Like mustard keen, his place he did assert  
 As Barrack-square Commander in the Field.  
 His military instincts with a mind alert  
 Impressed the men and made them gladly yield  
 A loyal submission to his high command.  
 Though sometimes tact was wanting in the past.  
 Yet gradually the naked armoured hand  
 Was covered o'er with velvet at the last!

## IV. C. M. R. (Active.)

And now the youngest Colonel of the four  
 Has reached the summit of his great desire.  
 He has to follow him who went before  
 With all his personality and fire.  
 The *Mounted Rifles* still will hold their place  
 Their Flag was won by service most severe,  
 When Blood was shed in Battle for our Race  
 And this alone should keep its memory dear.

W.A.T.

## ROAD TRANSPORT.

Of all matters before the Planting Community at the present time I have no hesitation in saying that road transport is the one matter of supreme importance. Production of tea has risen from over 82,000,000 lbs. in 1892 to over 190,000,000 lbs. in 1912, not to mention the opening up of 200,000 acres of rubber and the consequent additional traffic for so much produce to be carted down! Consider then the amount of stuff to be carted up in the shape of enormous quantities of rice, manure, tea box shooks and the thousand and one minor details, such as building materials, machinery, tools, &c., &c. The whole of this enormous amount of goods have to be transported along our roads by means of bullock carts, except where, in very few instances, motor transport has been permitted.

On top of this enormously increasing traffic came like a "bolt from the blue" the visitation of rinderpest which has almost crippled the transport facilities all over Ceylon. Be it noted also that this is not an occurrence of yesterday—it has now been going on for years—so that one is led to ask "What has Government done to assist us in this difficulty?" The answer is "nothing!" Our late Governor, Sir Henry McCallum, took up the question of mechanical transport with the utmost enthusiasm and promised all sorts of things, but Heaven only knows what extraordinary bonds of red tape prevented him from carrying out his ideas! The whole matter is extraordinary. The world over mechanical transport being brought into use and perfected more and more year by year, and yet we, the premier Crown Colony, are at a standstill!

When we beg for permission to put motor lorries on certain roads we are told we can only use lorries weighing 2½ tons when fully loaded—in other words, a maximum load of 1 ton, no more than any ordinary bullock cart can convey! Carts, be it noted, carry this load on one axle; motor lorries would spread it over two axles, but such a consideration as that is apparently of no importance! Again, all over these roads the P.W.D. use steam rollers of 4 to 5 tons weight, but motor lorries fully loaded must not exceed 2½ tons! No reason have been given for the ridiculous conditions laid down, and all attempts so far to get matters altered have failed.

We are told that the roads are not adapted for motor traffic—that such traffic was never contemplated when the roads were made—yet with the necessity for motor transport becoming more and more obvious every year absolutely nothing has been done to render our roads fit for such work!

I believe the principal trouble is want of width of the metalled surface, and another matter is the want of proper bedding on our so-called metalled roads. Why then are not steps being taken, or rather why have no steps been taken in past years to earmark so many thousands of rupees each year for the improvement of our roads in that respect? In connection with such "extras" the results of the flood of January 17th of this year strike one with great significance. Take only the roads and the railways—on the roads were landslips and washaways and bridges destroyed, but what steps were taken to repair damages? The landslips were cleared away after a fashion, but the

bridges in all cases, practically, are as they were after the flood! Apparently not a single cent of extra money is allowed to be spent! One can only suppose that the P.W.D. is tied down by bonds of red tape, as immovable as steel bonds, not to spend one cent beyond the usual year's estimate for upkeep, and this is emphasized by the fact that most of our road surfaces worn into holes and ruts are at the present time (the month of May) still in the condition that the January floods left them! Now let us consider the railway. For their washaways, &c., the railway people sent round and scoured the adjoining districts for labour to repair damages, enlisting thousands of Singhalese villagers at most exorbitant rates of pay, keeping them at it night and day until they had the railway running again, in full swing, in an incredibly short time considering the damage done. One would rationally expect to find extra labour taken on in the same way to set right our road surfaces—but no! A few villagers were employed to clear away landslips, but, that once done, the roads relapsed into their usual state of stagnation, and the road surface remains unchanged.

You must not hurry, or interfere with the road cooly—he has his goats to attend to! However, this is a digression—what we have to consider is how we can get our roads put into condition for mechanical transport in the shortest possible time. My suggestions are as follows:—

- (1.) That, whatever road is under consideration, all estates using that road shall cess themselves for the purpose of putting that road in order for motor traffic in so far as that road passes through estate property.
- (2.) That each estate actually bordering the road shall take upon itself to complete all that portion of the road within the estate boundaries, getting a due proportion of the Cess money for that purpose.
- (3.) That Government be asked to set aside a certain sum of money yearly for the purpose of gradually paying back the estates for the money so spent.
- (4.) Provided that the P.W.D. pledges itself to undertake those portions of the road which do not pass through estate property, and to complete same in the same time as the works undertaken by the estates shall be completed.

If some such system is not adopted I have no hesitation in saying that we will not see our roads made fit for the necessary motor traffic in twenty years' time! If we can afford to dawdle for twenty years well and good, but most emphatically we cannot, so put your shoulders to it, planters, and remember that we did not even get our original railway until the estates had pledged themselves to guarantee the cost of it! The above suggestions invite consideration and criticism, as I, of course, fully understand that only certain of our roads will require some such action to put them in working order, but, knowing the P.W.D.'s leisurely methods as we do something of the sort will have to be undertaken or we will "get left." I am bound to say that I believe a really workable scheme for putting

the roads in order is being evolved, but, in the meantime, the world moves on and we stand still, so my idea may be worth consideration!

I do not think for one moment that the railway can successfully run a system of motor traction on our roads. The cost of establishment, upkeep and superintendence would be prohibitive and unsatisfactory.

The motor transport business must, of a certainty, be taken up by the estates themselves either by each estate owning its own lorry or by a group of estates joining together for that purpose.

The day the primitive bullock cart disappears from the face of our Up-country roads will be a great day for Ceylon!

HARRY STOREY.

Matale, 18th May, 1913.

## THE RELATION OF MEDICAL SCIENCE TO TROPICAL AGRICULTURE.

A LECTURE By Dr. P. H. BAHR.

February 14th, 1913.

I have experienced from members of this association so much kindness, as well as assistance in my attempts to carry out the special work I am engaged on, that when your Chairman asked me to give a lecture on some subject in which you, as a body, are interested, I gladly accepted the invitation, seeing that it would afford me an opportunity to publicly acknowledge, as I now do my indebtedness and gratitude and, perhaps, to make some small, if inadequate return.

My choice of subject is necessarily limited. It must be a medical one, for since coming to this country, my time and attention has been occupied, almost entirely, in studying local disease.

One cannot associate with the Planting Community of Ceylon without hearing a great deal about "labour," and, becoming impressed with the value and importance of the coolie, not only to the planter but to the island community as a whole. One soon perceives that the prosperity of Ceylon depends on the prosperity of the planting industry and that the prosperity of the planting industry depends, in its turn, among other things, and, more especially, on an adequate supply of efficient coolie labour. Should coolie labour from any cause become inadequate or too expensive then planting must cease to be profitable. The estates would revert then to jungle and Ceylon become once more the sleepy hollow she used to be before British enterprise took her in hand. Anything, therefore, which might contribute to the maintenance of an efficient labour force and keep down its cost must be, or ought to be, a serious consideration for the planter and, I may add, for the Government.

Now, although I cannot tell you how to keep down the rate of the individual coolie wage, I think I can tell you how to get more work out of him, which, as regards cost of production, comes to the same thing. This end can



be attained in part at least by attention to the health of the coolie force, for nothing makes so much for efficient work as good health. This is the subject on which I propose to address you. But as it is far too extensive to be treated adequately in all its aspects in the short time at my disposal, I shall limit my remarks, more especially, to a consideration of the principal disease agencies which attack the coolie here and to those measures which experience as well as medical science have shown are best calculated to combat their ravages. It is the only subject about which I can claim any right to address you, and even on this subject, seeing that I have barely a year's experience of Ceylon, I must speak with diffidence.

In discussing these things and in making suggestions I quite recognise that any measure I might advocate must be based on an all-round recognition of existing conditions. If, on the one hand, such measures would entail increased expense in the production of the pound of tea or the pound of rubber they are impracticable; but if, on the other hand, they are calculated to reduce the cost of production they are worth adopting as a business proposition. Philanthropy, unless on 5% principles is out of place in business.

To get the most work out of a coolie he should be properly fed, housed and clad. I shall say nothing about his housing and clothing, but a remark on his feeding may not be out of place. Planting and mining experience in the Malay Peninsula and in the islands of the Malay Archipelago has abundantly demonstrated the importance of a proper dietary. Ceylon, apparently, for many years has been spared the infliction of *beriberi*. Not so the countries I mention. In them *beriberi* has been a terrible handicap to the local industries. Of late years, however, thanks to the work of Braddon, Fraser, Stanton, and Dutch investigators it has become optional on the part of the planter or mine owner as to whether his coolies shall or shall not get this disease. It has been proved that *beriberi* is in great measure, if not entirely, the result of a dietary, the principal ingredient of which is overmilled rice. If a coolie, a monkey, or a fowl be fed exclusively on overmilled rice or highly polished rice, that is rice from which the layer of greyish material underlying the husk of the paddy, the layer known as the "pericarp," has been entirely removed, then that coolie, monkey, or fowl, as the case may be, will get *beriberi* and, if the exclusive feeding be persisted in, surely die. Since the establishment of this fact, and since it has been acted on in Government institutions in the Strait Settlements, many of them formerly ravaged by *beriberi*, the disease has completely disappeared unless in imported cases. The same can be said of the mines and plantations in proportion to the degree in which the practical deduction arising from this important discovery has been acted on.

At one time, in the earlier half of last century, Ceylon had a bad name for *beriberi*, in fact the disease was known as the "Bad Sickness of Ceylon." I do not know how its disappearance from this island is to be accounted for, unless it be that whereas formerly the rice in general use was overmilled, the rice in use at the present day is of a coarser but more salubrious character, that is to say, the entire pericarp has not been removed by overmilling. Overcooking, more especially cooking in high temperatures, as with steam, is said to have the same effect on rice as overmilling. It destroys some substance residing in the pericarp of the grain, some substance essential for the

proper nutrition of the animal body when rice forms the sole or principle article of diet. In consideration of these facts I would recommend you to stick to the quality of rice at present in use on the estates and to the present method of cooking it and not to risk *beriberi* by introducing overmilled rice or patent steam cookers.

Nothing predisposes to dysentery and diarrhoea, very common diseases in estate coolies, so much as badly prepared food, rice which has been cooked for some time and is fermenting, indigestible foods, or unripe or over ripe fruits. I think some supervision in this matter would repay the planter.

I mention these things in passing. I shall now proceed with the main subject of my paper, the principal diseases of estate coolies, the germ causes of these diseases, the natural history of these germs, the best methods of attacking these germs in the human body; and the best ways of preventing their access to the human body, these methods being founded on an accurate knowledge of the life histories of the respective germs.

There are others, but the more important diseases of the estate coolie appear to be Ankylostomiasis, Malaria, Dysentery, Diarrhoea. It is about these I propose to speak and my first observation is that they are all preventable diseases. This observation I beg of you to bear in mind.

Ankylostomiasis, although not so dramatic a disease, if I may use the expression, as cholera, for example, is nevertheless in the aggregate, and from the economic point of view a far more important one. As a rule, the individual attack of cholera terminates within a few hours in death or recovery; and, even when the disease is epidemic, the number of people attacked is relatively small and the epidemic in any particular locality is over in a few weeks not to recur again, perhaps for years, if at all. Ankylostomiasis, on the other hand, once introduced becomes permanently endemic, persisting, unless energetically and intelligently tackled, as a permanent danger to health and permanent drain on the labour of the locality. Thus an ever present, though as regards the average attack a relatively mild disease, is a far more serious matter than the rarer, more acute and, as regards the individual case, dangerous disease. Hence the importance of Ankylostomiasis in the tropics. I have no exact statistics as regards the amount of Ankylostomiasis in Ceylon, but certain it is that the majority of Tamil coolies are affected to a greater or lesser degree and, what is perhaps quite as serious, the disease is spreading to the native Sinhalese. So that unless measures of an energetic character are taken the chances are that in a short time the danger will assume even larger proportions even than at present.

The cause of Ankylostomiasis is a minute worm some half an inch in length. Its habitat in man is the small intestine, to the inner coat of which it attaches itself by means of a powerfully armed sucker—like mouth. The worm obtains its nourishment by abstracting blood and juices from the bowel, thereby draining the human victim of his blood and irritating the organs of digestion. The injury it inflicts is not confined to this; for it is believed that the worm elaborates a poison which, on being absorbed, acts prejudicially on the blood, thus aggravating the anæmia resulting from the direct loss of blood and impaired digestion. The anæmia so produced may proceed to any length, even to a fatal termination. Although death is by no means an uncommon direct result of the

presence of this worm, it is rather the indirect results that are to be dreaded. You can readily understand that a man with vitality lowered through anemia, with impaired digestive powers, with an irritated bowel will be predisposed to an readily succumb to any intercurrent disease, such as malaria, dysentery, consumption and so forth. Moreover, such an individual is hardly fit for a full day's labour: or, if he attempts this, the quality of his work is bound to be below that of the healthy man. The presence of such a man is not only a direct and indirect loss to an estate, but, in addition to this, he is an ever present danger to his fellow-workers, to whom, at any time, he may communicate his disease.

It is unnecessary to enlarge further on the importance to the planter of this parasite. I have no doubt your experience bears me out on all I have said on this point: and that you agree with me in recognising the desirability, if not the necessity, for some well considered method for getting rid of or, at all events, of mitigating this burden on the planting industries.

A first and most important step in this direction must be the popularising of such knowledge of the life history of the parasite concerned, as scientists have already ascertained. Fortunately this knowledge is now practically complete. Possessing this knowledge we will find ourselves in a position to prescribe measures calculated to deal effectually with the pest; without such knowledge we might commit ourselves to measures as expensive as they would probably be ineffective.

The female ankylostome (there are males and females) hanging on to the inner coat lays her eggs in prodigious numbers into the contents of the bowel. These eggs pass out of the patient's body in the stools and, falling on a favourable soil, hatch out, in due course, a minute and very active larval worm. In the warm moist earth these larval worms undergo certain developmental changes which fit them, when opportunity serves, to enter into and live in the human body. For this opportunity they may have to wait weeks or even months: but should the opportunity arrive, if ever it does arrive, they contrive to reach their final goal, the small intestine by one of two routes. Either they are transferred directly to the stomach in drinking water, or in earth on soiled fingers: or they pierce the skin of the feet or legs when the coolie passes through contaminated ground. In the latter case the worms having traversed the skin, enter the blood stream and in it are carried to the lungs, whence they migrate, via the windpipe and gullet into the stomach and so to the small intestine. Arrived in the gut they rapidly develop, attain maturity and, in their turn, proceed to lay their eggs and scatter infection.

I daresay some of you may think that in asking you to accept this description of the last mentioned way by which the ankylostome arrives at the gut I may be drawing too freely on your credulity. But I assure you it is not so. The facts are well ascertained. The history of its discovery constitutes an interesting passage in recent medical science, so interesting that I may be permitted to refer to it in some detail.

A well-known German scientist, Looss by name, had occupied himself for many years with the study of Ankylostomiasis as it occurs in Egypt, where the disease is particularly prevalent. In the course of his work he had occasion to study the behaviour of the young worm before

it gains an entrance into the human body. He collected a large number of ankylostome eggs and hatched them out in damp soil. On one occasion a drop of this damp soil accidentally fell on the back of his hand. Shortly afterwards he became conscious of a certain amount of irritation in the part. This soon subsided, and, for the time being, the circumstance passed from his mind. Several weeks later Looss became very anæmic. He thought that perhaps, like so many people in Egypt, he might be suffering from the endemic disease on which he was working, namely, Ankylostomiasis. With this idea he examined his stool microscopically and had no difficulty in finding therein crowds of ankylostome eggs. At once his mind reverted to the little accident to his hand, and he speculated on the possibility that this accident had been the cause of his infection, in other words, that the ankylostomes which produced the anemia, and the eggs in his stools had actually entered by the skin of his hand at the time he soiled it with his culture, and by some unknown route had arrived in his intestine. There was to be an amputation of a leg at the hospital. With the surgeon's permission Looss, shortly before removal of the leg, placed on the part about to be amputated some of his cultures of larval ankylostomes. Subsequently, on making a microscopical examination of the portion of skin to which the larval ankylostomes had been applied, Looss had the satisfaction of finding that the parasites had penetrated into the skin, and that already some of them actually lay beneath the skin. Following up the discovery he made a number of experiments on dogs and other animals themselves liable to their special forms of ankylostome infection, with the result of definitely establishing that these parasites, when opportunity offers, enter the human body by the skin, travelling to their habit at the bowel, by the route I have described. Looss' observations have been abundantly confirmed by other workers. This is a very important discovery, for it gives us the key to one method for the prevention of Ankylostomiasis. It has long been known that in Ankylostomiasis districts the plantation coolies are particularly prone to troublesome eruptions and sores about the feet and legs. It is now recognised that these sores and eruptions originate in the minute wounds produced by larval ankylostomes in their efforts to reach the bowel. The little wounds are, of course, readily contaminated by the ordinary bacteria of suppuration which everywhere abound in soil and water.

In the management of this disease there are two points which have to be attended to: First, the cure of the individual patient; second, the prevention of the infection of others. The first of these is, fortunately, in the vast majority of instances, a very simple matter and, if carried out on a large scale, powerfully contributive to the second.

In beta naphthol, given in doses of 5 to 20 grains two or three times at intervals of an hour, and repeated if necessary after a few days, we have a remedy of proved efficiency. Each course of the drug should be followed by a liberal dose of Epsom Salts. Thymol may be given in the same way and is if anything more effective, but it has the draw back of being an unpleasant drug to take and not altogether without risk in careless hands.

The eradication of Ankylostomiasis from a community, say from an estate, requires a combination of measures which should be carried out simultaneously and sustained indefinitely. The first of these is wholesale drugging with

beta naphthol or thymol. The second, the provision of an uncontaminable water supply. The third, provision of properly constructed latrines, together with measures to prevent wholesale faecal contamination of the soil. The fourth, protection of the feet and legs of the coolies against contact with ankylostome-infected earth. The fifth, systematic examination of coolies before and after engagement for the presence of ankylostomes. The sixth, Government quarantine against importation of ankylostome-infected coolies from foreign countries, in the case of Ceylon from India. If these measures are properly carried out estates can be kept practically clear of this troublesome disease and a great economy in labour result.

It would occupy too much time were I to attempt to describe in detail how these six indications can best be fulfilled, even if my lack of knowledge of local circumstances would justify the attempt. I imagine that each district or estate would have to meet them in somewhat different ways. A knowledge such as I have attempted to convey, of the life history of the parasite, combined with common sense and sustained energy, qualities that every planter should possess, should suffice to deal effectually with this most important matter.

There are one or two measures, not generally adopted, but which I would commend to your consideration. I would urge that every estate dispenser be trained to use the microscope sufficiently well to be able to diagnose Ankylostomiasis at its very earliest stage and long before the coolie's health has begun to suffer. A suitable microscope for the purpose need not cost more than two or, at the most, three pounds, half an hour's instruction should suffice for his training. I would have him examine microscopically the stools of all coolies, their wives and children once in every three or four months. As soon as ankylostome eggs are detected, treatment should be instituted and continued till the stools are free from eggs. Coolies on their first coming to an estate should at once be similarly examined.

Some years ago a Trinidad sugar planter told one of the staff of the London School of Tropical Medicine of a way he had devised for preventing a form of anaemia which had caused great loss and inconvenience on his estate. He had from personal observation come to associate sores and eruptions on the feet and legs of his coolies with the intense anaemia which invariably followed their appearance. He knew nothing at the time about Ankylostomiasis, but he speculated that the anaemia was the effect of a germ, and that this germ entered his coolies' bodies by way of the feet and legs producing, as it entered the skin, the local trouble referred to. He argued that if he could prevent the entrance of the germ he would prevent the anaemia.

This gentleman had been in the habit of travelling on the Continent during his holidays. On one of these visits he came to a place where geese were extensively bred. The place was a long way from the market to which the geese had to be driven. The road was hard and rough, and, unless precautions were taken to prevent injury of the feet of the birds during the journey, the value of the geese was seriously affected. And so the geese were shod in a very ingenious and comical way. Before starting on its journey each goose was made to wade through a shallow tub of Stockholm tar, stepping out, as it emerged from the tar, into another tub filled with fine sand. Thus shod it took the road, arriving at its destination in good condition and with sound feet. The planter applied this ex-

perience to his coolies. Every morning before going to work they had a tar foot-bath followed by a sand foot-bath. The result was excellent. Coolie anaemia almost disappeared from the estate. I understand that this system has been adopted on some estates in Assam and with satisfactory results. I have not heard of its adoption in Ceylon. It certainly is worth a trial.

I have attempted to show you in what way a knowledge of the life history of the germ cause of Ankylostomiasis can lead to effective control of the disease. I shall now proceed to show how a knowledge of the life history of the germ cause of malaria, a disease to the Planter almost important as, if not more important, than Ankylostomiasis.

If, at the appropriate time during an attack of malarial fever, the blood of the patient be examined microscopically, in the interior of a portion of the red cells a slowly moving animalcule can be detected. If the examination be repeated at short intervals it will be seen that this little animal, which is the germ cause of the disease, gradually increases in size till it almost fills the blood cell.

Arrived at this stage it divides into a number of spore-like bodies. The blood cell then bursts. The spores are scattered into the blood-stream and, entering into fresh blood cells, renew the cycle of growth, sporulation and escape. Thus the disease is kept going in the unhappy patient. But now the question crops up as to how the patient acquired the disease, or infection, originally; and how the germ is carried from one human being to another. At a certain stage in the progress of a malarial infection bodies, differing in appearance somewhat from those already described, make their appearance in the blood. If you set a mosquito, of the kind known as *Anopheles*, to bite such a patient, and if you subsequently dissect such mosquitoes and examine the tissues microscopically, you will find that these bodies enter the mosquito's stomach, and, lodging in the wall of this organ, gradually grow into comparatively large tumours in the interior of which a countless swarm of minute rods, sporozoites they are called, are formed. The tumour then bursts, the little rods get into the body cavity of the insect ultimately finding their way into the salivary gland, which communicates by means of a duct with the mouth parts of the mosquito. The whole process, extending from the ingestion of the malarial blood to the appearance of the young malarial germs in the salivary gland of the mosquito, occupies some ten or eleven days, more or less, according to the temperature of the atmosphere. When a mosquito bites she injects, as by personal experience you doubtless know, a very irritating substance. This substance comes from her salivary glands, and if the mosquito had been feeding ten or more days before on a malarial patient she injects with her saliva the sporozoites, the malarial germs, I have alluded to. Ten days later the person so infected gets fever and the malaria germs can be seen in his blood cells.

Fortunately, we have a sovereign remedy for malarial fever in quinine. But to get the best results the drug must be administered in the proper way, and it must be remembered that quinine does not invariably eradicate the infection. It allays the fever and checks the multiplication of the germs in the blood. Stop the quinine, however, and at any time within the next two or three years the parasite, which has been temporarily paralysed by the drug, may revive and once more active malarial fever develop, and this even in the absence of a possibility of reinfection by

fresh mosquito bite. Neither will quinine prevent infection; so long as quinine is being taken the chances are that in spite of infection there will be no fever, but on stopping the quinine fever may ensue. Therefore it is of importance that those recently exposed to malarial influences should keep up the use of quinine for months after the possibility of infection has passed.

Important preventive measures may be reduced from the well established facts I have just mentioned.

Rid your estates, as far possible, of the malaria bearing Anopheles. This can best be done by abolishing its breeding places, such as pool of stagnant or semi-stagnant water; not overlooking such trifles as empty tins, coconut shells, broken bottles, flower pots, rain barrels, coconut trees or such trees as have holes in them, or have natural cavities capable of holding water, sagging gutters, or drains etc., etc. In the case of pools which by reason of their extent or from other causes cannot be drained or filled in, they should be sprinkled once a week with crude paraffin, this will kill the mosquito larvae, or they may be stocked with larvae-eating fish.

Dwelling places should never be located in the neighbourhood of stagnant water or paddy fields. European quarters should be well away from native lines, seeing that the latter are fertile source of infection.

To the European in malarial districts the mosquito net and the mosquito screened room are invaluable, and should be invariably be used after sundown. I may mention that the mosquito net, to be effective, should be so arranged as to serve its purpose. It should have no holes and should be tucked under the mattress. During a year's experience of Ceylon hotels and resthouses I have never come across a properly arranged mosquito net. Perhaps my experience has been unusually unfortunate.

In malarial places in which the foregoing precautions have not been thoroughly carried out, or in which they cannot be applied, we should attempt to prevent the development of the many infections which are sure to take place. The only means at our disposal, and fortunately it is in great measure effective, is the wholesale, all round administration of quinine; five grains daily to all adults and a proportionate dose to all children. There may be difficulties in doing this, but these difficulties can be overcome by tact and management. The result will, I am sure, be ample recompense for the small amount of trouble entailed. One difficulty sometimes encountered, lies in the objection coolies have to the bitter taste of quinine. The Italians have got over this difficulty in the case of children, who, by the way, are the principal reservoirs of malarial infection, by administering the drug in chocolates. It may be similarly disguised in sugar-coated pills or tablets.

Apropos of the value of systematic quinine administration I have obtained Sir Patrick Manson's permission to quote a letter he received recently from Mr. A. J. Stronach of the Ceylon Survey Department. Mr. Stronach writes:—

"Prior to joining the Ceylon Survey some 6½ years ago I had 3 years' experience on the Gold Coast. The conditions under which we worked were bad and unhealthy, and the only thing that kept the staff in good health I attribute to the very good Medical box each Surveyor was allowed. The principal item being quinine tablets which were taken regularly, and also given to the boys or coolies attached to the Surveyor.

"My experience in Ceylon is that all the Ceylonese Surveyors and their coolies have rooted prejudice to quinine in the form we give it—Sulphate of Quinine—in fact they never take it, it is wasted and thrown away, they wait until they get full of fever then shut themselves in a dark room, take native treatment with little or no nourishment, and, after a week's illness, they come out regular wrecks.

"In the Survey Department we have 316 Ceylonese Surveyors in the field. We can take no precaution against malarial infection as they are continually on the move, and they generally live in native huts and in unhealthy localities, this cannot be prevented as they have to live where their work is.

"I am quite satisfied we can greatly improve the health of the Surveyor, if, instead of issuing them Sulphate of Quinine, we issued them the sugar-coated Quinine Tablets. They will take them readily, and ask for them, and so will the coolies.

"In support of what I say, I visited the Houpe Estate near Madampe, midway between Pelmadulla and Rakwana owned by the C. T. P. Estates. The Directors now send out tins of sugar-coated tablets from Ferris & Co. Each tin contains 4,000 5 grain tablets. At muster every morning the coolies are given them. I spoke to one of the Managers about it and he informed me that the health of the coolies had improved wonderfully since starting them, and that the muster had increased fifty per cent. If this is true it should be pushed for all it is worth, as it goes a long way to prove that the old system of allowing coolies to take quinine mixture in bottles was not a success, as it was not taken but invariably thrown away."

As regards Mr. Stronach's practice my advice to those of you who have the management of malaria-haunted estates is, "Go thou and do likewise."

Not the least important of the preventable diseases of the estate coolie are the various forms of dysentery and diarrhoea from which they so frequently suffer.

As regards the former I would impress on you that the name dysentery covers a number of different forms of inflammation of the large intestine, each of which is produced by its own specific germ. Not infrequently two or more of these germs may simultaneously attack the bowel, thereby producing a complicated form of dysentery, difficult of diagnosis and difficult to treat.

The vast majority of coolie dysenteries are produced by two now well-known germs, one a small animalcule, an amoeba, causing amoebic dysentery; the other a small bacillus causing bacillary dysentery. Of the two amoebic dysentery is the more common in the tropics and has characteristic symptoms. It is often insidious in its origin, erratic in its course, relapses alternating with temporary improvement, very persistent, in the long run very often fatal and prone to be complicated with abscess of the liver, especially in male and intemperate Europeans. The germ cause, the amoeba, is thrown off in vast numbers in the discharges, in which it can readily be detected by the microscope. Fortunately in ipecacuanha, and especially in the active principle emetine, we have a cure for this disease, almost, if not quite as efficacious, as quinine in malaria.

Seeing that the germ is thrown off in the patient's discharges, it follows that these discharges are infective, and it is evident that food or water that may become contami-

nated in any way by these discharges are liable to convey the disease. Hence the importance of a pure water supply, of boiling all drinking water, of washing all food vessels before use with boiled water, and of avoiding all unwashed vegetables, especially salad.

Bacillary dysentery generally occurs as an epidemic, it runs an acute course and is not prone to relapse. It does not give rise to liver abscess, and is not generally a dangerous disease, although in certain epidemics it acquires a high degree of virulence and is then most dangerous and rapidly fatal.

The best treatment for bacillary dysentery consists in the careful administration of small doses of aperient Salines, such as Epsom Salts and subcutaneous injections of the serum of the horse immunized against the dysentery bacillus by repeated intravenous injections of cultures of this germ.

As in amoebic dysentery, so in bacillary dysentery, the germ is present in the discharges which are therefore liable to render infective everything they may contaminate.

Diarrhoea is only too prevalent in coolie lines and may originate in a variety of germs, whose activities are provoked by bad food, exposure, intemperance, and the ordinary ostensible causes usually quoted as producing the disease. Such, however, would not suffice to produce disease in the absence of those specific germ causes which are undoubtedly at the bottom of most cases of chronic coolie diarrhoeas.

As a result of my studies on these diarrhoeas, some I have found are associated with, and consequent on amoebic dysentery, and may therefore be successfully treated with the specific drug—emetine.

As to the others, I have gradually been driven to the conclusion that they are infective, although I cannot point to the germ cause, and that what we know in the European as "Sprue" and as "Ceylon sore-mouth" are of this nature, and that they are in most cases caught from the coolies and natives. I wish I could indicate a specific and reliable remedy for these coolie diarrhoeas. All one can say is that they should be treated by diet and rest and on general principles.

One piece of advice I would offer with confidence. Regard them all as potentially infective; treat all discharges with antiseptics and prevent their contaminating food and water, or having them transported on the feet, mouths and intestinal contents of flies.

Flies are especially to be feared in bacillary dysentery, just as they are to be feared in cholera, typhoid and many other diseases about which I have now no time to speak.

In concluding my remarks, I trust you will not think me too presumptive, if I venture to give you a few words of advice.

However, you may oppose and compete with each other in business, co-operate against the common enemy disease. It is useless, or approximately so, if, for example, one estate attempts to clear itself of Ankylostomiasis and the adjoining estate is neglected in this respect.

See that your dispenser is indoctrinated with the germ theory of disease, that he treats all discharges as

potential sources of infection, that he can recognise the eggs of ankylostome, and that he uses his microscope systematically to diagnose this infection.

Provide your dispensers with ample stocks of sugar-coated quinine tablets, and in malarial districts arrange for a daily muster of coolies for wholesale quinine administration being careful to include all children in the daily muster, for the children are the main reservoir of the malaria germ.

Provide your dispensaries with a stock of emetine and several hypodermic syringes for treatment of amoebic dysentery and diarrhoea, and see that the dispenser understands the administration of the remedy.

Isolate in a special room all cases of dysentery and diarrhoea, and have the discharges disinfected at once, and, if possible, burned.

See that latrines are provided for your coolies. I will not specify what type of latrine, and how they may be built. Details about these can easily be obtained from recent publications on the subject by various Medical Officers from other British tropical possessions.

I am aware that there are great objection in Ceylon to the institution of coolie latrines on estates. It is said that the estate system militates against their adoption, and that coolies cannot be taught to use them. That they can be educated to do so, there can now be little doubt, for the latrine system has now for some years been adopted on estates in British Guiana with great success, and I need hardly remind you, that the coolie there employed is a Tamil.

Organize on each estate a sanitary gang of two or more coolies, according to the size of estate, whose exclusive duty it shall be to see that the latrines are systematically used and cleansed, and, especially, that the banks of streams and the plantation itself are kept free from faecal contamination.

See that all mosquito pools and collections of water likely to harbour mosquitoes are drained or filled up, and that all empty and disused pots, pans, tins, and other receptacles capable of holding water are destroyed or buried.

Erect on each estate near the coolie lines an inexpensive form of cheaply-run rubbish destructor, such as those in use in our African Possessions, particulars of which can easily be supplied to you, and into this have all discharges and rubbish regularly emptied and consumed.

Finally do not hesitate to co-operate with the officers of the Sanitary Department which Government has recently, and, in my opinion, very wisely organized. Consult them when in doubt and follow their advice, especially with regard to the location and construction of coolie lines and bungalows.

I have recently read in the newspapers of the proposed establishment of a Medical Research Institute for Ceylon. This must be considered as a move in the right direction, and, if the institution is run on the right lines and conducted by a wise and energetic Superintendent, it cannot fail to be of immense value to the Colony, and especially to the planting industry.

I thank you for your kind and patient attention, and trust that these remarks may be of some practical value to you.

## THE CO-INCIDENCE OF MANURES AND WEEDS.

The above heading is a sufficient introduction to my views on a long-debated point. I come forward as a frank disbeliever in the accepted theory that the application of manure is a necessary means to a weedy estate. I even challenge the equally general belief that the mere breaking of the soil discovers weeds long dormant in a clean estate.

In the May number of the *Planting Gazette* I notice that Mr. F. H. Layard has gleaned from the Annual Report of the Chamber of Commerce the interesting fact that—"Rape Cake and Castor Cake were not in demand so largely as in former years"—and he puts a question which is just as interesting—"Would these regain their lost position, could they be sterilized?"

I doubt it. I fancy that Ground Nut Cake has been substituted for the above, on account of its slightly more nitrogenous value. I do not think that even the most self-satisfied authority would care to condemn any manure on the score of weeds, in the absence of more definite information than we possess.

The sterilization of manure has its disadvantages. It enhances the cost of the manure and it diminishes appreciably its constituent value. I have not the figures by me, but I remember reading in a recent Commonwealth paper an article on this very subject; I was particularly struck by the increased cost of each unit of Nitrogen, &c., &c. Before legislating in favour of sterilization, should we not first make some attempt to find out where the onus truly lies.

First then as to the breaking of the soil. There are many who insist that forking disturbs latent weeds; and as this is an older theory than that of manure it demands our prime attention. I have always been sceptical when this argument has been brought forward, for my own experience seems in the direct contradiction. Times without number I have had hung at me the world-wide belief that Mumby wheat has been successfully germinated and brought to the blade; and it has been useless for me to say that Science had not yet accepted the fact. It was with great pleasure, therefore, that I read in recent numbers of knowledge that experiments carried out over several years have proved conclusively that the vitality of wheat has no duration beyond ten years, even under the most favourable circumstances. A much more sensible argument is the proverb born of centuries of English farming—"One year's seeding means seven years' weeding." But it must be remembered that in Ceylon the soil is very much more fertile than at home; and those few who know anything at all about weeds out here will tell us that the seven years of the farmers' saw may be written down to a very doubtful four years. Why then should an estate which has been clean-weeded for more than four years burst suddenly into weeds after the application of manure?

From this we glide easily to manure. Manure has been applied in increasing quantities during the last few years, and weeds have flourished correspondingly. It is a somewhat natural inference, therefore, that the one is the cause of the other. But I contend that the inference is barren of all proof. The modern manure mixture consists of a base of certain cakes and meals sprinkled with

certain soluble salts. But we have been applying those very cakes and meals for many years now, and the cry of weeds is a recent one. True, it is quite possible that the modern methods of preparing these cakes, &c., may be more slipshod than of old; but this is a matter easy of proof, and I will return to it later on. Again it is quite unlikely that the weeds are broadcasted with the soluble German salts. I have indeed heard of late that several new varieties of weed are directly attributable to the application of Basic Slag; but I dismiss this statement as too improbable for discussion.

What then, I may be asked, is the cause of the weeds? It is an undoubted fact that weeds follow manuring; if the weeds are neither in the soil nor in the manure, whence do they come? My answer is—they are wind-borne. It is the wind that has spread vegetation all over the world. It is the wind that brings the weed-seed from adjacent dirty estates and deposits it gently on the loose soil which we have carefully prepared for it. Anyone, who cares to, may prove this for himself. Let him fork two adjacent lines of tea against the line of the wind, manuring only one of them; let him carry the forked rows into some sheltered hollow; then watch results. If any new weeds spring up in both rows, let him follow the line of the wind and he will find his new products flourishing gaily in some semi-abandoned garden.

At the same time we must not neglect the possibility that the modern preparation of Castor Cake, &c., is growing slipshod; and if the Parent Association will experiment along the following lines we may arrive at some definite understanding. I am perfectly sure that, in their own interests, the various Colombo manure vendors would, if asked, supply us with a substantial free sample of each of the manures they vend. Let an identical series of samples be allotted to each District Association. In every district there is at least one clean estate with a conscientious man on it who is prepared to carry out experiments. The plots selected should be clean, and, as far as possible, sheltered from the wind. The plots should be forked all over and should not be weeded for a month or six weeks. Alternate lines should be left unmanured and the manured lines should be labelled with their distinct manures. At the end of two months a return should be called for.

If these suggestions are carried out I shall be much surprised if there is not a great diversity of result; in which case it will be hardly fair to blame the manure.

FRED. S. ELSON.

## CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION.

Ceylon Labour Commission,  
Trichinopoly, 20th May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

1912 ACCOUNTS.

Dear Sir,

On the 5th instant I received from Messrs. Ford, Rhodes, Church & Co. a letter covering a list of estates whose Superintendents did not agree their balances at 31st December, 1912, and a list of 219 estates whose Superintendents have omitted to sign and send in their Certificates.

Many of the Accounts in the first named list differ by amounts of under One Rupee, and are explained by Banking Charges not having been passed through the estate books, in

eleven cases the Superintendent shewed the balance on the Certificate as due to instead of by the Estate, some transactions entered in my books in December 12th are accounted by Superintendents in January 13th, and ten Certificates were sent in unsigned. I have dealt with all the above individually and sent fresh Certificates for signature and despatch to the Auditors.

In the case of the second list of estates no Certificates was sent to the Auditors by 219 Superintendents, and consequently I have had to send a second letter and Certificate to each Superintendent. This has been done and I sincerely hope the second application will be more successful than the first.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,  
Trichinopoly,  
21st May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

With reference to my letter of even date with regard to the 1912 Accounts might I suggest that a note in the Editorial of the "PLANTING GAZETTE" be published, which would perhaps persuade over 200 Superintendents to forward the balance certificates to the Auditors without further delay. The approximate cost of issuing fresh certificate forms, postage and clerical work amounts to at least Rs. 50, and this might have been saved had these Superintendents complied in the first place.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

(The reason for obtaining these certificates is sufficiently obvious, and should require no labelling. It is hoped that this announcement will save the Commission from further avoidable trouble.—Ed.)

Ceylon Labour Commission,  
Trichinopoly,  
21st May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I received an enquiry from a Ceylon Estate Superintendent for Nellore Cart Bullocks, and, having issued instructions to my agents and made enquiries, secured the following information, which, I think, may be of some value to Colombo Firms, who not only use Carts for their Mills transport but purchase animals for their estates.

The number of Draught Bullocks available within a reasonable distance of my Nellore Agency is approximately 200—250 in good healthy condition. Probable prices are as follows:—

Bullocks, age 5 years, height about 4 feet to 4½ feet,  
say Rs. 300 to 320 per pair.

Bullocks, age 6 to 7 years, height about 5 feet, say  
Rs. 320 to 340 per pair.

Transport from Nellore Railway Station to Tuticorin per truckload of 8 bullocks Rs. 98, inclusive of fare for one cattle-keeper.

If native buyers are employed 5 per cent. on the price is their fee, but I think it would be much better for the purchasers to send their own cart baas to make a selection and then get the bullocks examined and certified by the Government Veterinary Officer at Rs. 2 per animal,

plus any travelling expenses should the officer have to go out into the district to see the bullocks.

The B. I. S. N. Company charge Rs. 4—2 per bullock for shipping, freight and Colombo Harbour Dues.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Ceylon Labour Commission,  
Trichinopoly, 21st May, 1913.

THE EDITOR,  
The Planting Gazette.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of the *Planting Gazette* Vol. 1, No. 3, May, 1913, the contents of which I have read with much interest. Under the heading of correspondence I notice a letter from Mr. T. F. Russell making a suggestion that an official map of Southern India of a suitable size to be hung up in the Office might be published. I have now in the hands of the Director of Surveys, Madras, an official map for this Commission which denotes the various Circles of the Assistant Commissioners, the Agencies of the Commission, the principal towns and villages, road routes, and Railway Lines, &c. Presumably this map would meet with the requirements as suggested by Mr. T. E. Russell. I shall be glad to hear from you on the subject.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

(Mr. Nicholson has arranged to get me a supply of maps as described in his letter. The cost will be Rs. 1 each, and they will be sent, when ready, per V. P. P. on application.—Ed.)

Ceylon Labour Commission,  
Trichinopoly,  
22nd May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I enclose for the information of your Committee extract from the Inspection report of the Assistant Commissioner, Palghat Circle, on Tataparai, Tinnevely, Madura and Erode Agencies under the heading "General Information."

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

## GENERAL INFORMATION.

### MADURA AGENCY.

The prospects of recruiting appear to me to be excellent in the Madura District this year, I expect to see a large increase in the number of coolies registered this year.

### TATAPARAI AGENCY.

The Agency has shown a large increase up to date this year, and is, I think, well run.

### TINNEVELLY AGENCY.

The recruiting prospects are good for this year, the registration has already shown an increase.



## ERODE AGENCY.

The registration of coolies shows an increase this year over last year, and I think the year will be a good one.

I have hopes that the Agent who is now at Erode will do his best to improve the Agency, and have spoken to him to that effect. The Agency has no doubt been very unpopular in the past, and I am convinced that its unpopularity was due to the late Agent.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Assistant Commissioner.

## PUDUCOTTAI AGENCY.

The Agency figures show an increase of 79 to date, and as the local festivals and harvest are only just over, the coolies have not started coming in any numbers yet. Alangudi taluk is the best for working coolies. In Kulatur they don't appear to like leaving their homes and are not fond of manual labour. In Tirumayam taluk there are a lot of very rich Chetties who can afford to pay any amount for labour.

(Signed) E. B. LEVINGE,  
Assistant C. L. Commissioner.

## NELLORE AGENCY.

In the nearer taluks a crop of paddy is being harvested, but in the inland taluks there are practically no crops and recruiting should be good. The new Agent seems to have settled down to his work and has got things into fairly good order.

(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,  
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.  
Chittoor Circle, 15th May, 1913.

## KARUR AGENCY.

The recruiting prospects are fair, but there are very few kangaries recruiting in the vicinity of this Agency, this may be probably due to the fact that there is a lot of wet cultivation in this taluk and consequently work for the population.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Assistant C. L. Commissioner.  
Palghat Circle, 23rd May, 1913.

Ceylon Labour Commission,  
Trichinopoly, 30th May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

## NON-SUBSCRIBING ESTATES.

Dear Sir,

I should like to bring to the notice of your Committee that a considerable number of coolies are being lost to Ceylon owing to the fact that the kangaries bringing them for registration are not entitled to the facilities of the Commission, as their Estates do not happen to be subscribers. Everyday there are cases of coolies being turned away, the kangaries, in many cases, complaining that they have no money to enable them to take their coolies to Ceylon. The result of these rejections is that the coolies are, in all probability, snapped up by the nearest professional recruiter and sent to Penang unless they are fortunate enough to be able to return to their villages. If these

facts were sufficiently ventilated I feel sure it would be an additional inducement to many estates to join the Coast Agency Scheme.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

(The Ceylon Labour Commissioner will not in future give assistance of any kind to estates which have not subscribed to the Coast Agency.—Ed.)

Ceylon Labour Commission,  
Trichinopoly, 11th June, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

"PLANTING GAZETTE."

I have the pleasure to enclose article, etc., for insertion in the July Issue of the above *Gazette*, which I trust will reach you safely. I regret that these are a little late and I will endeavour to send them in better time next month. I found the last *Gazette* most interesting reading, and I trust the Editorial giving prominence to Mr. Westland's letter and his proposals in connection with a Recruiting Agency will have some effect in stimulating planting opinion as to the vital necessity of opening up and exploiting the Telugu Districts in a whole-hearted fashion.

Yours faithfully,  
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

## COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING.

I proceeded to Mandapam via Madura on the 14th May in order to inspect the Pamban Agency, and to give myself the opportunity of inspecting the site for the Ceylon Government Cooly Camp at Mandapam, the plans for which are now in the hands of the South Indian Railway authorities who have undertaken to carry out the work. I took the opportunity of again visiting the Madura Agency, and was not able to find much improvement since my last visit, as the new Agent was away on sick leave and had not had sufficient time to bring the work into more satisfactory order. This Agency has been the cause of considerable complaints from Superintendents, and the changes that have now been made will, I trust, ensure a permanent improvement.

On completion of this inspection I proceeded on the morning of the 15th by the midday train to Mandapam travelling in the District Engineer's Special Carriage. By the courtesy of the Agent of the South Indian Railway I was permitted to occupy the Railway bungalow at Mandapam, which is situated on the seashore facing South-West and close to the Railway Station. The distance from Madura to Mandapam is 89 miles, and I reached my destination at about 5 o'clock passing through the Ramnad District which, although fairly well cultivated along the line, was showing distinct signs of a prolonged drought.

On the morning of the 16th I crossed over to Pamban by the Madura Company's Launch which is running on the North-East side of the isthmus, and from which I was enabled to have a good view of the Indo-Ceylon connection between Mandapam and Pamban. The Viaduct is



almost completed and only awaits the arrival of the Scherzer Roller Lift Bridge which is to be used to permit the passage of vessels.

I inspected the Pamban Agency and found it in good order. Recruiting figures show a very small increase. Coolies for this Agency come from the Ramnad Taluq. Harvests have been fair, but the rainfall for the last few months, as in common with other districts, has been short. Coolies leave for Colombo by steamer about every ten days and do not go into this Agency until just prior to their departure. I have instructed the Agent to spend his spare time touring in the villages on the mainland advertising Ceylon and broadcasting posters. On the opening of the Mandapam Camp in January next there will be no further necessity for the Pamban Agency, provided there is an office for the Commission within the precincts of the Camp. The Agency will therefore have to be closed, and the staff transferred either to Mandapam or elsewhere wherever their services may be required. Pamban is not a healthy Island and residents are liable to a peculiar form of Malaria. Owing to pressure of time I was not able to inspect the Emigration Camp, but I had the opportunity of a conversation with Mr. Paranjothy, the Superintendent, who informed me that there were no coolies in the Camp at that moment and that everything was in order. Presumably this Government Camp will also be closed eventually, as it will not be required when the Mandapam Camp is a going concern. The population of Pamban Island is about 6,000 and there is no field for recruiting.

On the morning of the 16th I proceeded up the line from Mandapam by trolley to inspect the site of the proposed Cooey Camp. Its position is due south of Mandapam and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles up the line before arriving at the Station. The land available for the Camp is in extent about 200 acres, 60 per cent. of which running parallel with the Railway is flat, and the remainder gradually rising and undulating to the seashore. There is ample high ground for the residence of officials, and the whole site is well opened to healthy sea breezes. The soil consists of lime-stone with a subsoil of sand, and there is ample water to be obtained by boring in all parts of the Camp. The land itself is the property of M. Cassim Mohomed Marikar, who holds it under the Zemindari of Ramnad. This individual appears to be a local Hooley and has acquired all the land and property in and around Mandapam, having evidently foreseen the possibility of enhanced land values in view of the increasing importance of Mandapam as a seaside health resort and the centre of the Indo-Ceylon connection and the Ceylon Government Cooey Camp. There is no doubt that the existence of this large Cooey Camp will bring increased trade to Mandapam, and there are already signs that the natives are anticipating this. I consider the site for the Camp is an excellent one in every respect. It is absolutely isolated from Mandapam itself, and can in no way be contaminated by the pilgrims who annually resort to Rameswaram for their devotions from all parts of India. Situated as it is in such a unique position and with the heavy expenditure to be incurred on its erection there is every reason to hope that this Camp will be immune from epidemic and a halting ground which will find great popularity from its inception with the Tamil coolies. It is matter of congratulation that the South Indian Railway authorities find themselves able to take

up the contract for the erection of this Camp as we can rest assured that it will be completed within the least possible time consistent with the high standard of work they themselves maintain in all their undertakings.

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

#### MONTHLY REPORTS ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS.

RECRUITING FIGURES.—36,449 coolies have been despatched from the Agencies of this Commission to the end of May as against 29,792 for the same period last year, a fairly substantial increase when we consider that the climatic conditions prevailing in 1912 were so favourable for recruiting. A Comparative Statement is attached which will readily show where the improvement is most marked.

The recruiting figures for South Madura now show some slight improvement, but competition in and around Madura is fairly keen. The following notes with regard to Messrs. Harvey and Company's Cotton Mills may be of interest:—

There are 40,000 spindles working at present at Messrs. Harvey and Company's Spinning Mills at Madura. The total number of hands in the old Mill, 1,500. Total number working in the new Mill, which is in the course of construction, 575. On completion the total number of hands required for the new Mill will be 4,000. The daily output of Cotton at present is approximately 100 bales. Printed Circulars have been issued throughout the Madura District by Messrs. Harvey and Company for the recruitment of labour required for the new Mill. The Cotton is only spun into thread and sold to merchants who deposit money with the Mill owners for the yarn. The wages of men eight Rupees per mensem and women according to the work they turn out, i.e., at the rate of three pies per skein. Skilled women coolies earn from eight to twelve annas per diem. Overtime pay for all workmen six pies per hour. The Mill owners offer free quarters for the hands required for the new Mill.

The recruiting season is now at its height and coolies are coming in well, and I see no reason to suppose that last year's figures will not be substantially increased.

TELUGU RECRUITING.—Increased effort is being made to secure labour from these districts, but progress is necessarily slow. It requires concerted action, perseverance and the expenditure of a substantial sum of money to secure tangible results. I am glad to say that there are signs of more unanimity as regards the necessity for establishing Recruiting Agencies in these districts, and whether run in conjunction with this Commission or independently the systematic recruitment of Telugu labour is, I am sure, an absolute necessity for Ceylon. The kangany system has so firm a hold on the Tamil Districts that "direct recruiting" is at present an exceedingly unsatisfactory proposition. In the Telugu Districts where the kangany is not known and is looked upon with suspicion, an effective recruiting scheme for "Dorai Kanak" has every prospect of success. I sincerely hope that the matter will not be allowed to drop as there exists, without doubt, a vast field for recruiting work in these districts if Ceylon is energetically and efficiently advertised.

**TRICHINOPOLY DEPOT.**—Messrs. Spencer and Company of Madras have taken over the feeding arrangements as from the first June, 1913, and the new catering is so far giving complete satisfaction.

**BRIBERY AND EXTORTION.**—There have been a few complaints in connection with one or two, Out-Agencies and changes are gradually being affected, which, I trust, will prove effectual. There are now throughout the Agencies and in my Trichinopoly Depot large Notice Boards painted in the vernacular warning coolies that they should not submit to extortion under any circumstances, and affording them the opportunity of bringing complaints direct to my notice. In many cases kanganies and coolies fail to carry out these instructions and wait until they return to Ceylon making complaints direct to the Superintendent. It adds considerably to the task of satisfactory investigation, and I would ask Superintendents to impress upon their kanganies and coolies the necessity in their own interests of bringing all incidents where they have been pressed for money, refused registration, or otherwise persecuted, directly to my notice when enquiry will be immediately made. I am issuing a supply of addressed telegraph forms to the Tuticorin Jetty Agent, who will in future hand a couple of these to each kangany who arrives on a recruiting mission from Ceylon. On taking coolies for registration to any agency, if he should have anything to complain of, he can immediately fill in this form and forward it to Headquarters. His complaint will be followed by immediate enquiry as far as is possible with the staff available.

**CAMPING REPORTS.**—Owing to the temporary shortage of Assistants it has not been possible for the European staff to undertake any camping work during the past month, as they have been fully engaged in Agency Inspection. I hope to include some interesting information under this heading for the July Issue of the *Gazette*.

**BOLTING AFTER REGISTRATION.**—A certain amount of this is still prevalent, and I notice that in many cases the kangany who has been implicated has originally had at his own request his "A." Form transferred from his own districts to some Agency where he has no influence

or connection whatsoever. I would suggest to Superintendents that, if they are sending over a kangany or cooly who has asked for an "A." Form on the understanding that he has coolies collected or waiting to come over to Ceylon in his own village, they should endorse across the A. Form that it is "NOT TRANSFERABLE." This will ensure the kangany or cooly doing his own recruiting work in his own village and prevent him going elsewhere and enlisting the services of professional recruiters. Without this endorsement kanganies can have their "A." Forms transferred at any time from one district to another, and proceed to parts of South India for recruiting purposes where it is impossible for them to know anything about the coolies they recruit or exercise any control over them after they have been registered at one of my agencies and drawn cash.

**TUTICORIN FEEDING ARRANGEMENTS.**—I append Mr. Dupen's Inspection Report in connection with this Feeding House and the reception of incoming kanganies and coolies, and I trust it will encourage Superintendents to give these arrangements warmer support than has hitherto been the case.

**SARNIA ESTATE KANDASWAMY KANGANY.**—The report of the proceedings in the above case where Kandaswamy was convicted and given three months rigorous imprisonment for cheating his Superintendent has been translated into the vernacular, and I am having bills posted at all my agencies as a warning to other kanganies who come over here to recruit. I am also sending copies to each estate requesting Superintendents to place them in prominent position. I append translation of the vernacular poster.

**WEATHER REPORT.**—This, as from the 1st April to date, is attached. The rainfall continues short in most of the recruiting districts, and it is most pronounced at Nellore, Cuddapah, Coimbatore, Salem, Madura and Tinnevely. On the other hand, Trichinopoly District shows a considerable increase.

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
11th June, 1913.

### CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912 and 1913.

Agencies.	Years.	January.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.
<b>Headquarter Circle.</b>										
Trichinopoly	1912	740	1,036	1,776	1,556	3,332	3,276	6,608	6,057	12,665
"	1913	994	1,201	2,195	1,453	3,648	4,081	7,729	7,639	15,368
Tanjore	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879
"	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943
Turaiyur	1912	5	32	37	6	43	28	71	137	208
"	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319
Musiri	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228
"	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	366
Puducotah	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698
"	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768
Manaparai	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822
"	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1,269
Total...	1912	990	1,388	2,378	2,012	4,390	3,869	8,259	7,241	15,500
"	1913	1,408	1,630	3,038	1,895	4,933	5,020	9,953	9,080	19,033

Agencies.	Years.	January.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.
<b>Chittoor Circle.</b>										
Chingleput ...	1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	953
" ...	1913	99	132	231	228	454	424	878	440	1,318
Arkonam ...	1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750
" ...	1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681
Villupuram ...	1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1,277
" ...	1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1,059	682	1,741
Katpady ...	1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1,082
" ...	1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1,263
Coconada ...	1912	...	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69
" ...	1913	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58	closed	58
Cuddapah ...	1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73
" ...	1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73
Nellore ...	1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29
" ...	1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120
Guntur ...	1912	...	63	63	8	71	155	226	43	269
" ...	1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27
Chittoor ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29
Anantapur ...	1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126
" ...	1913	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1912	757	702	1,459	669	2,128	1,149	3,277	1,351	4,628
" ...	1913	642	694	1,336	883	2,219	1,285	3,504	1,806	5,310
<b>Madura Circle.</b>										
Tutaparai ...	1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1,024	522	1,546
" ...	1913	267	352	619	433	1,052	761	1,813	741	2,554
Madura ...	1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1,178	603	1,781
" ...	1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1,739
Tinnevely ...	1912	94	122	216	136	352	174	526	247	773
" ...	1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958
Aminapatam ...	1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383
" ...	1913	43	43	86	49	135	130	265	179	444
Tondi ...	1912	109	177	286	134	420	329	749	321	1,070
" ...	1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970
Pamban ...	1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201
" ...	1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	146	78	224
Total ...	1912	750	813	1,563	1,024	2,587	1,262	3,849	1,905	5,754
" ...	1913	773	771	1,544	982	2,526	1,808	4,334	2,555	6,889
<b>Salem Circle.</b>										
Salem ...	1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	326	1,103
" ...	1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840
Bangalore ...	1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148
" ...	1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118
Guntakal ...	1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59
" ...	1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371
Hubli ...	1912	...	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114
" ...	1913	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46	closed	46
Tirupathur ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85
Namakal ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	18	15	33	58	91	55	146	83	229
Dharmapuri ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115
Atur ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182
Nanjangoda ...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ...	1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69
Total ...	1912	155	192	347	187	534	439	973	451	1,424
" ...	1913	201	307	508	480	988	544	1,532	523	2,055

THE PLANTING GAZETTE.

1

Agencies.		Years.	January.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.
<b>Palghat Circle.</b>									
Erode	...	1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637
"	...	1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805
Dindigul	...	1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546
"	...	1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763
Karur	...	1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314
"	...	1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343
Palghat	...	1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220
"	...	1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286
Tirur	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	6	5	4	10	21	closed	21
Cannanore	...	1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	...	1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26
Total...	...	1912	291	358	649	422	1,071	646	1,717
"	...	1913	467	509	976	597	1,573	671	2,244
Grand Total...	...	1912	2,943	3,453	6,396	4,314	10,710	7,365	18,075
"	...	1913	3,491	3,911	7,402	4,837	12,239	9,328	21,567

AGENCIES.	PREVIOUSLY.			MAY.			TOTAL.			G. TOTAL.						
HEADQUARTER CIRCLE:—	M.	F.	Ch.	Infsts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infsts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infsts.	Total.	
1. Trichinopoly	...	4,439	1,453	1,358	479	7,729	4,123	1,507	1,480	529	7,639	8,562	2,960	2,838	1,008	15,3
2. Tanjore	...	413	114	37	32	596	245	53	32	17	347	558	167	69	49	9
3. Tiraiyur	...	88	30	27	17	160	68	35	41	15	159	154	65	68	32	3
4. Musiri	...	81	31	41	11	164	94	36	57	15	202	175	67	98	26	3
5. Pudukottah	...	279	75	83	23	460	180	55	58	15	308	459	130	141	38	7
6. Manaparah	...	837	126	65	16	844	283	83	42	17	425	920	209	107	33	1,2
		5,935	1,829	1,611	578	9,953	4,993	1,769	1,710	608	9,080	10,928	3,598	3,321	1,186	19,0

MADURA CIRCLE:—

7. Tataparai	...	1,108	359	235	111	1,813	463	143	77	58	741
8. Madura	...	678	172	88	14	952	460	165	119	43	787
9. Tinnevely	...	411	95	59	39	594	232	56	47	29	364
10. Annamapattanam	...	171	46	36	12	265	110	42	22	5	19
11. Tondi	...	397	99	38	30	564	244	84	45	33	406
12. Pamban	...	77	39	21	9	146	35	16	18	9	78
		2,842	800	477	215	4,334	1,544	506	328	177	2,555

CHITTOOR CIRCLE:—

13. Chingleput	...	508	193	84	93	878	261	108	34	37	440
14. Arkonam	...	257	110	25	49	441	146	58	15	21	240
15. Villupuram	...	675	235	92	57	1,059	424	161	64	33	682
16. Katpadi	...	560	206	45	67	878	232	85	39	29	385
17. Coconada	...	26	19	10	3	58	...	Closed	...	...	...
18. Cuddapah	...	24	13	8	5	50	13	6	1	3	23
19. Nellore	...	75	19	6	3	103	12	2	2	1	17
20. Guntur	...	15	6	1	0	22	4	2	0	0	5
21. Chittoor	...	10	3	1	1	15	9	4	1	0	14
		2,150	804	272	278	3,504	1,101	425	156	124	1,806

AGENCIES.	PREVIOUSLY.					MAY.					TOTAL.					G. TOTAL.				
	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.	M.	F.	Ch.	Infts.	Total.
<b>SALEM CIRCLE:—</b>																				
22. Salem	377	114	93	39	623	145	45	18	9	217	522	159	111	48	840					
23. Bangalore	71	8	1	3	83	25	7	3	0	35	96	15	4	3	118					
24. Guntakal	181	63	26	14	284	67	12	6	2	87	248	75	32	16	371					
25. Hubli	28	8	8	2	46	...	Closed	...	...	...	28	8	8	2	46					
26. Tirupathur	39	15	12	5	71	8	2	1	3	14	47	17	13	8	85					
27. Namakal	101	24	14	7	146	52	16	14	1	83	153	40	28	8	229					
28. Dharmapuri	59	24	12	6	101	12	2	0	0	14	71	26	12	6	115					
29. A'ur	77	34	14	13	138	22	8	10	4	44	99	42	24	17	182					
30. Nanjangode	35	4	1	0	40	17	6	6	0	29	52	10	7	0	69					
	968	294	181	89	1,532	348	98	58	19	523	1,316	392	239	108	2,055					
<b>PALGHAT CIRCLE:—</b>																				
31. Erode	521	164	55	65	805	132	46	15	23	216	653	210	70	88	1,021					
32. Dindignl	451	180	82	50	763	285	68	34	16	403	736	248	116	66	1,166					
33. Karur	195	72	53	23	343	104	25	44	11	184	299	97	97	34	527					
34. Palghat	207	42	25	12	286	80	15	8	4	105	287	57	31	18	391					
35. Tirur	14	4	2	1	21	...	Closed	...	...	...	14	4	2	1	21					
36. Cannanore	17	6	3	0	26	9	1	0	0	10	28	7	3	0	36					
	1,405	468	220*	151	2,244*	610	155	99	54	918	2,015*	623	319	205	3,162					
	13,300	4,195	2,761	1,311	21,567	8,596	2,953	2,351	982	14,882	21,896	7,148	5,112	2,293	36,449					
		(21,567)					(14,682)								1,912	29,7	2			

Total number of coolies shipped at the 4 Ports at Tuticorin, Ammapatnam, Tondi and Pamban as per Government Returns up to :—

31st May, 1913.....43,924.

31st May, 1912.....39,192.

#### MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Salem Circle.</b>						
Salem Dt. (Salem Agency)	Salem	Bad	5	2½	Bad	Recruiting prospects in these taluks are not good owing to magnesite works and mica mines.
	Omalur	do	4	2	do	
	Krishnagiri	do	4	2	Good	A good number of pariah coolies are starving here, and they are afraid of being recruited by a kangany. If any Estate Superintendent were to camp here he will be able to recruit these coolies.
	Tirichengode	Fair	4	2	do	
	Hoosur	Bad	4	2	Good	
						A large number of tamil-knowing Canarese coolies are available here. Some reliable kanganyes may be directed to recruit in this taluk.

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.		Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
				Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.			
<b>Salem Circle.</b>								
(Dharmapuri Agency)	Dharmapuri	...	do	4	2	Good	The Agent states that a large number of coolies are recruited from this taluk for Penang. Estates offering free passages to coolies should send over good kangaries to recruit here.	
(Atur Agency)	Atur	...	Fair	4	2	Fair	Harvesting is now over in this taluk and it holds out better prospects.	
Trichy Dt. ... (Namakal Agency)	Namakal	...	Fair	2 to 3	1½ to 2½	Fair	Two or three rainfalls which this taluk had at the beginning of this month had temporarily engaged the people on the fields, but as the season for cultivation is now over it holds out better prospects for the nearest future.	
Chittoor Dt.... (Tirupathur Agency)	Tirupathur	...	do	3	2	Fair	Do do	
Mysore Province. (Nanjangode Agency)	Gundalpet	...	Good	3½	3	Not good	Rains have commenced in these parts and cultivation is in progress. It is expected that there will be a strong reaction against recruiting for a time.	
	Nanjangode	...	do	4	3	Bad		
	Chamarajanagar	...	do	3	2½	do		
(Bangalore Agency)	Bangalore	...	Fair	4	2	Fair	Harvesting is over in these parts, and coolies do not find sufficient local labour. Generally the recruiting prospects are good.	
	Magadi	...	do	do	do			
	Closepet	...	do	do	do			
	Kunegai	...	Bad	3	1½	Good		
	Nelavangala	...	do	do	do			
	Thodu Belapura	...	do	4	2			
	Hosukottai	...	Fair	do	do	Fair		
Arakai	...	do	do	do				
(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON, Ceylon Labour Commissioner. Trichinopoly, 10th June, 1913.								
<b>Trichinopoly Circle.</b>								
Trichinopoly Dt.	Musiri	..	Fair	3 to 4	2 to 3	Good	Harvesting is over and the recruiting prospects are good.	
Musiri, Turaiyur and Manai Agencies)	Perambalare	...						
	Kulitalai	...						
Tanjore Dt. (Tanjore and Ammapatnam Agencies)	Kumbakonam	...	do	4	3	Fair	In some of these taluks a scarcity of water supply is felt. Grain stock is generally sufficient and local employment is available.	
	Mannargudi	...						
	Mayaveram	...						
	Nannilam	...						
	Negapatam	...						
	Papanasam	...						
	Shiyali	...						
	Tanjore	...						
	Tiruthuraiyandi	...						
	Arantangi	...						
Pattukottai	...							

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Trichinopoly Circle.</b>						
Puducottah State	{ Tirumayan ...	...	5	3	Poor	
	{ Alangudi ...	do	4	2	Good	
	{ Kolatur ...	...	4	2	Poor	
Madura Dt. ... (Tondi Agency)	{ Tiruvadanai ...	Not good	4 to 6	3 to 4	Good	
	{ Tirupathur ...					
	{ Sivaganga ...					
	{ Paramagudi ...					
(Pamban Agency)	{ Paramagudi ...	Fair	6	2½	Fair	
	{ Tiruvadanally ...	do	5	3	do	
	{ Muthukolatur ...	do	5½	2½	do	
	{ Ahyram ...	do	6	2	do	

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,  
Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
Trichinopoly, 10th June, 1913.

**Palghat Circle, Palghat and Cannanore Agency.**

Malabar ...	{ Palghat ... Walawanad ... Calicut ... Chirakal ... Ponani ... Kottayam ... Kurumbranad ... Ernad ... }	Fair	3 to 4	2 to 0-2-6	Good	There are very few kanganies recruiting in Malabar this year.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th May, 1913.

**Palghat Circle, Erode Agency.**

Coimbatore ...	{ Erode ... Bhavani ... Gobichetty- poliem ... Satayamangalam ... Palladam ... Peria Dhara- puram ... Avanashi ... Udamalpet ... Pollachi ... Kollegal ... }	Crops are fair.	3 to 4	2 to 0-2-6	Fair	

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th May, 1913.

**Palghat Circle, Dindigul Agency.**

Madura ...	{ Dindigul ... Palani ... Dharapuram ... }	Good	4 to 0-4-6	3 to 0-3-6	Fair	This agency has registered this month more coolies than ever before, the number being about 400.
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(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
2nd June, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		

Trichinopoly and Coimbatore	{	Karur	...	Fair	3 to 4	2 to 0.2-6	Fair	There are not many kangas recruiting in the vicinity of this agency.

Tinnevely ...	Nanguneri ...	Good in Ten- kasi and Am- basamudram, Fair in other Taluqs.	4	3	Fair
	Sankaracoil ...				
	Tenkasi ...				
	Aubasamudram ...				
	Tinnevely ...				
	Srivaikuntam ...				
	Trichindoor ...				
	Koilpatti ...				

Madura	...	Madura	...	Fair	4 to 5	0-2-6 to 3	Fair
		Melur	...				
		Periakulam	...				
		Nelakottai	..				
		Tirumangalam	...				
		Dindigul	...				
		Palani	...				
		Mana Madura	...				
		Sivaganga	...				
		Thirupathur	...				
		Ramnad	...				
		Paramagudi	...				
Kamuthy	...						
Thirupunvanam	...						

Tinnevely	...	Koilpatty	...	Cotton crop flourishing	6 to 8	3 to 5	Fair
					These must be town rates		

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
28th May, 1913



## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks..
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Chittoor Circle.						
Chittoor	Chittoor	... Paddy, Ragi & Sugar Cane	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	Prospects in Chittoor can only be said to be moderate. There certainly numbers of coolies who in any Tamil district would go at once, but these people are very chary of leaving their homes. Good reports from those who have gone would do more than anything else to encourage them.
	Kalahastri	... Paddy & Ragi	do	do	do	
	Karvatnager	... do	do	do	do	
	Palmanari	... Paddy & Ragi	do	do	Indifferent	
	Vayalpad	... do	do	do	Bad	
	Madanapalli	... do	do	do	do	
	Punganur	... Paddy, Cumbu, Cholan & Ragi	do	do	Indifferent	
	Chandragiri	... do	do	do	do	
Tamil Districts.						
North Arcot	Arcot	... Paddy, Ragi & Tobacco	4	2 with food	Bad	Prospects in North Arcot, which borders Chittoor on the south and once part of the same district, are still decidedly good as there are now no crops and the people have very little to do.
	Vellore	... Paddy & Ragi	do	do	Indifferent	
	Gudiyatam	... Paddy, Ragi & Cholan	do	do	Good	
	Walaja	... Paddy & Ragi	do	do	do	
	Polur	... Ragi & Cholan	do	do	do	
	Tirupathur	... Paddy, Ragi & Cholan	do	do	Indifferent	
	Arni	... Paddy & Ragi	do	do	Bad	
	Tiruvannamalai	... do	do	do	Indifferent	
	Wandiwash	... do	do	do	Bad	
	Arcotnam	... Fair	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good	
Cheyar	... Good	do	do	do		
Chingleput	Chingleput	... Good	4 to 6	2½ to 3½	Fair	In Chingleput and in South Arcot districts the prospects are still decidedly good. There has been a great increase of emigration in these districts, and there is every hope of it continuing for some time yet. In South Arcot the harvest may slacken things a little, but the returns from this district are increasing enormously.
	Conjeeveram	... do	do	do	do	
	Madurantakam	... do	do	do	do	
	Ponneri	... do	do	do	do	
	Saidapet	... do	do	do	do	
	Tiruvellor	... do	do	do	do	
South Arcot...	Villupuram	... Summer				
	Cuddalore	... Ground nut crop is flourishing well	5	3	Indifferent	
	Virudachalam	... do	do	do	do	
	Tirukoilur	... do	do	do	do	
	Kallakurichi	... Raising of the	do	do	do	
	Tindivanam	... second crop is fair.	do	do	do	
Gingee	... do	do	do	do		

## MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR MAY, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
<b>Telugu Districts.</b>						
Cuddapah	Cuddapah	... Only one Crop	4	2	Bad	Cuddapah is a district where good recruiting could be done if efforts were made. It is a poor and dry district, and the people are always badly off at this season.
	Pulivendla	... do	do	do	Moderate	
	Kamalapuram	... do	do	do	do	
	Rayachoty	... do	3	do	do	
	Rajampet	... do	do	do	do	
	Sidhout	... Not good	do	do	Good	
	Badvel	... do	do	do	do	
	Proddatur	... Only one Crop	6	do	Bad	
	Jammalmadugu	... do	3	do	Moderate	
Nellore	Nellore	... Paddy	4	2½	Fair	In parts of Nellore there are some fair crops of paddy, but this is only in the places where water is to be had. Now is a good time to make efforts to open this district.
	Sullerpet	... Paddy & Ragi	3	2	Bad	
	Venkatagiri	... do	do	do	do	
	Koour	... do	do	do	Fair	
	Atmakur	... Paddy, Ragi & Cholan	do	do	Good	
	Kavali	... do	do	do	Bad	
	Udayagiri	... do	do	do	do	
	Kandukur	... Paddy & Ragi	do	do	do	
	Raipur	... Paddy, Ragi & Cholan	4	do	Fair	
	Kanagiri	... do	do	do	Bad	
	Podhili	... Ragi, Cumbu & Cholan	do	do	do	
	Dharsi	... do	do	do	do	
	Gudur	... Paddy, Ragi, Cholan & Cumbu	4	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	... End	4½	3	Bad	
	Dharmaveram	... do	3	1½	Moderate	
	Gooty	... do	do	do	do	
	Kalyandrug	... do	do	do	do	
	Paynakanda	... do	2½	do	Bad	
Bellory	Bellory	... do	3½	2	Moderate	
	Adnoi	... do	2½	do	do	
	Roydrug	... do	3	do	do	
	Hospet	... do	4	2½	Bad	
Kurnool	Kurnool	... End	4½	2½	Moderate	Sufficient efforts have not been made to take coolies to Ceylon from here. Numbers of coolies go elsewhere and Ceylon estates that have recruited here have nearly always been very successful. There is no reason why the people should not go to Ceylon.
	Mothagiri	... do	3	1½	do	
	Thodpatry	... do	4	do	do	
Guntur	Guntur	... Cholan and Cumbu	4 to 5	3 to 4	do	
	Sattnapalli	... do	do	do	do	
	Narasarowpet	... do	do	do	do	
	Gurijala	... do	do	do	do	
	Venokonda	... do	do	do	do	
	Bapatla	... Paddy	do	do	do	
	Tenali	... do	do	do	do	
	Wangole	... Cholan and Cumbu	do	do	do	

(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,  
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
Chittoor Circle,

## Translation.

## CAUTION.

It is hereby informed to all Ceylon estate kanganyes and coolies that on the 26th April, 1913, a cooly named Kandaswamy, of Sarnia Estate, was tried and convicted by the Badulla Court, Ceylon, of three-fold acts of cheating his estate Superintendent and sentenced to three months rigorous imprisonment for each act of cheating. The details of his cheating are as follows:—

The above said cooly, Kandaswamy, informed his estate Superintendent that he had some coolies ready in India to go over to the estate, and the estate Superintendent therefore sent him to India in August last with an A. Form for Rs. 15 rate, 7 tin-tickets and an advance of Rs. 50 to fetch the coolies. Kandaswamy came to India, and after remaining there some months, returned to the estate in November last without taking with him any coolies, but falsely registering himself as a new cooly on another kangany's a/c in the Ceylon Labour Commission Agency and obtaining an advance of Rs. 15 on himself from the Agency. Kandaswamy again informed his estate Superintendent that he would go and bring the above coolies, and he accordingly left the estate with his father, named Kalimuthu, receiving rail fares from his estate Superintendent, but he dropped his father Kalimuthu on the way, and, taking with him a female cooly who belonged to Cocagalla Estate, came to India. He remained at the Coast some months without making any effort to recruit coolies, and returned to the estate in the month of March, 1913, again falsely registered himself and the woman in the Ceylon Labour Commission Agency as new coolies on another kangany's a/c and obtaining an advance of Rs. 30 from the Agency under false pretences. Thus Kandaswamy cheated his estate Superintendent in three ways, viz. :—

1. By coming to the Coast with advance under the pretence of taking over some coolies while there were none ready at the Coast.
2. By falsely registering himself as a new cooly to Ceylon and obtaining money on himself, while he was an old cooly of Sarnia Estate.
3. By falsely registering himself again as a new cooly and also the female cooly, as a new cooly to Ceylon and obtaining advances, while the woman was an old cooly of Cocagalla Estate, and he was therefore sentenced to 9 months rigorous imprisonment for these three acts of cheating.

Kanganyes and coolies are therefore warned that they should not resort to these acts of cheating, and should they at any time cheat their estate or this Commission they will render themselves liable to the severe punishment inflicted on the above said Kandaswamy.

## TUTICORIN JETTY ARRANGEMENTS.

I met the second launch at about 9-15 a.m. this morning (this launch brings the third class passengers) the Jetty Agent's Assistant had been to the steamer with one peon, and they returned with the coolies.

There were only nineteen passengers with cards, and to make certain that there are no more with cards the Jetty Agent, his Assistant and the peons stand by where the tickets are taken from the passengers, and each passenger is asked by them if he has a card similar to the ones they hold in their hands, if so he is made to stand aside.

The coolies and kanganyes are then taken to the Custom's House, where they are roped off from the other passengers and their luggage is examined by the Custom's Officials, this only occupied a few minutes. They were then taken into the Custom's shed by the Jetty Agent and there A. Forms examined and destinations noted.

One Sub-Kangany brought no A. Form with him and the card from his Superintendent did not state his destination, so his word had to be taken for the place he wished to go to.

After their destinations were noted the coolies were escorted to Jackson's Feeding House, whence I followed them.

I examined the food that was being prepared, this was quite good, there was also two bags of rice ready in case a large number of people should require food, the kitchen was quite clean, as were the cooking pots. I also examined the resthouse for the coolies, also owned by Jackson, this is quite a large room, but seems somewhat lacking in ventilation, some of the mats on the floor were old and none too clean, I instructed Jackson to substitute new ones.

On the whole the arrangements for meeting the incoming kanganyes and coolies appear to me to be very satisfactory, and they must find it very convenient to be so well looked after.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner,  
20th May, 1913.

## WEATHER REPORTS.

Unreduced barom. readg. 29.926 | Readg. reduced to 32° F. 29.763  
Attached thermometer 89.0 | Rain since midnight Nil.  
(8 a.m. to 8 a.m.) 9th June, 1913.

STATIONS.	Pressures 8 a.m. 9th June.	Shade Temp.		Past 24 hours.	Rainfall.	
		Max.	Min.		1st. April to Date.	Average 1st April to Date.
Port Blair	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diamond Island	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saugor Island	29.615	86.7	78.7	00.9	16.89	6.70
Gopalpore	29.613	89.7	79.0	0.41	3.28	3.73
Waltair	29.658	90.1	81.4	...	4.62	4.37
Cocanada	29.667	91.7	81.1	...	4.84	2.70
Masulipatam	29.676	97.3	82.7	...	1.84	3.06
Guntur	...	97.7	81.5	0.04	4.84	...
Nellore	29.694	103.5	83.1	...	0.23	1.40
Madras	29.716	101.3	85.7	...	2.18	2.27
Cuddalore	29.731	102.8	82.7	...	0.18	1.76
Negapatam	29.731	100.7	80.7	...	1.31	2.81
Pamban	29.751	92.7	80.3	...	0.52	2.83
Colombo	29.806	87.5	75.5	...	22.67	24.22
Trivandrum	29.802	85.0	76.0	...	22.12	18.07
Cochin	29.804	87.2	73.7	0.65	25.62	24.63
Calicut	29.803	83.8	74.1	0.55	24.96	21.18
Mangalore	29.805	84.3	74.3	1.63	21.88	17.60
Mercara	26.094	68.0	64.0	1.20	14.42	13.62

SITUATIONS.	Pressures 8 a.m. 10th May.	Shade Temp.		Past 24 hours.	Rainfall.	
		Max.	Min.		st April to Date.	Average 1st April to Date.
Karwar	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bombay	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hyderabad	29.635	90.8	76.7	...	4.94	3.58
Raichur	29.681	91.5	75.6	...	5.63	2.62
Anantapur	...	93.0	75.6	0.04	3.58	3.15
Bellary	29.686	90.0	75.3	0.03	3.87	3.68
Kurnool	29.684	94.5	79.6	...	2.31	2.33
Chidlapah	29.707	100.5	81.8	...	1.57	3.02
Hassan	29.767	72.3	67.1	0.16	8.33	8.55
Bangalore	29.777	79.3	66.8	0.02	3.82	7.13
Kodaikanal	22.731	64.0	53.5	0.05	8.57	11.57
Ootacamund	22.956	58.5	53.2	0.09	10.40	12.82
Coimbatore	29.778	88.0	71.5	0.04	2.92	4.56
Vellore	29.724	97.2	80.5	...	4.30	4.75
Salem	29.804	91.0	75.8	...	5.16	8.20
Trichinopoly	29.748	99.1	77.8	...	7.67	5.58
Pudukottai	29.760	98.5	79.4	...	2.75	4.09
Madurai	29.770	98.0	78.1	...	2.09	5.68
Tinnevely	...	...	...	...	2.33	4.69

*Rain.* The air continues to be very moist on the south Madras Coast, and skies have been overcast except in the Carnatic and the extreme south. Rain has continued on the West Coast and at Hill stations, but the falls have not been heavy; Mangalore reports 1½ inches and Mercara 1 inch. Seas are rough on the Malabar and Bombay Coasts, and normal monsoon conditions now prevail. Moderate rain is likely to continue on the West Coast and at Hill stations. Higher temperatures than usual are probable on the Madras Coast and inland.

## MALABAR CASTES.

### THE NAIRS.

The present Nair caste are superior to the majority of castes in Malabar, and are really the aristocracy of Malabar, though by heredity they include persons who are traders and artisans, originally the Nairs were immigrants invading Malabar years ago, being clever and intellectual, they became governors and conquerors and owned land.

They are warlike people, the men always carrying their instruments of war with them, such as swords and bows and arrows, and wherever there were kings or lords of a country, there were Nairs with them. In appearance the Nairs are very good-looking people, they are fair, have nice features, hold themselves well, the women are considered to be particularly beautiful, some of them being as fair as an European, in dress they are very picturesque wearing white materials of finest texture, with borders of gold thread. In the old days the women had no covering over the breasts, and this may even be noticed at the present time when one meets them in the country.

If a Nair meets a Pariah he or she calls out to him to get out of the way, in the old days if a Pariah touched a Nair the Nair had a right to kill him, according to a book I was reading the other day it is true that the Pariahs have a day in the year when all the Nairs they can touch become their slaves, but the Nairs take pretty good care that this never happens.

The women are not bound to one husband, but in fairness to them it should be said that they rarely show preference for more than one man at the same time, and have been known to be loyal to a lover from their youth to

their old age, on the other hand the merest trifle, such as caprice, bad temper, jealousy may sever connection between a Nair woman and her supposed husband, of course this sort of thing leads to all sorts of legal complications as regards inheriting property which would be impossible to explain in a short article.

Their houses are remarkable for their absolute cleanliness, they are never built in rows, but each house stands in its own piece of ground, there is generally a tank or bathing place near the house, they take special trouble to grow fruit trees, such as cocoanut, plantains and arecanut palm, every house is generally surrounded by a fence and in front of the dwelling there is a sort of outhouse which was used originally as guard room, it is interesting to note that the poor Nairs being unable to have this extra house, will roof over their doors and put up a style to keep out cattle. You can generally tell a Nair house by chalk marks that are to be seen on the fences.

It is a noticeable fact that there are many more women than men amongst them. The women wear a peculiar emblematic necklace, pendants on it resemble a cobra's hood.

The Nairs have strange charms, some in the form of rings, they think it very good luck to wash their face with hands on which is a lucky ring, a ring made during an eclipse is exceedingly lucky.

Regarding their religion they are supposed to worship Vishnu, though they wear the mark of Siva on their forehead, this is only meant that they pay equal reverence to both the Gods, they worship all the higher Hindu deities, besides minor ones, having emblems made of stones in their dwellings, they have a horror of Magicians.

The chief religious festival is the Onam, which takes place in August or September, it is kept with great rejoicing, and during Onam you will never pass a Nair house without seeing it decorated, it lasts for eight days, they put on new clothes, provide themselves with new pots and pans, a great feature of this festival is the making of flower carpets, which are made on a flat surface, of many beautiful designs, with flowers of numerous colours, I myself have seen these carpets, the children will go out early in the morning to gather the flowers, it is sometime necessary to harden one's heart when too many requests for one's treasured flowers are tendered. During Onam they go in for field sports, football being one, and games with bows and arrows, and they have sham-fights and a sort of boxing game.

There is another great festival in December or January which is chiefly the death of Cupid, every woman on this day has a bath the moment she gets up, going with her friends to the tanks and singing.

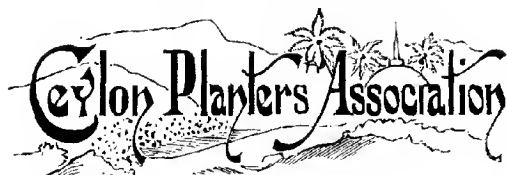
The third important festival Vishnu is a day of offering and it only lasts one day, it is supposed that the whole year is influenced by what happens on this day, therefore the Nairs must endeavour to see only good things, it is said that the moment your eyes open you must see something good, therefore if one of the family wakes he or she will wake up the family and lead them blindfolded to a place where the night before some good things had been prepared to look at. There are many other festivals which it is impossible to describe in a short article, but one other I must mention, and that is the cock festival, a description can be read in many little books about Malabar, for those who have never heard of it I will give a short

description, the festival is held at Cranganore, at which there is a temple dedicated to a Goddess who has power over diseases, pilgrimages taken to this temple are said to safeguard friends and relatives from disease, so many thousands flock every year to this place, no amount of blood is said to satisfy the Goddess, so when preparing their offerings a cock is always taken. As they wend their way to the temple they behave in a very noisy and unseemly manner, I have met them often and have noticed that their chief amusement seems to be in using bad language to the passers by, though on any other occasion they would never think of doing such a thing. They vie with each other as to who can take the most cocks, and these poor creatures are slaughtered in the temple in a very short time, the whole of the temple floor is covered with blood, it is a revolting sight, the smell of the blood and arrack is, I believe, horrible to a degree. I must not forget to say that if a man is taken ill with an infectious disease his relatives pay the Goddess, they will put the man in a scale before the Goddess in the other scale goods such as pepper, etc., paying the Goddess the weight of the man in goods, the offering is made in front of the Goddess, when all the people have left the temple after one of these festivals it is supposed that demons of all kinds come to the Goddess for a certain number of days which frightens the people so much that they keep away.

The death ceremonies are rather weird, but space will not allow a detailed description, they hurry over the burial as they believe that the sooner a body is buried the happier the spirit is.

The Nairs cannot be called an energetic people, they set about their agricultural pursuits in a very casual way, I would most certainly not recommend them as estate coolies, they have not been used to manual work, most of them are well educated and the children are sent regularly to school, and, with regard to English education, the Nairs can take a good place. You cannot live in Malabar without noticing the crowds of little Nair boys and girls going off happily to school, and a good percentage of the students at the College are Nairs.

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,  
Assistant Ceylon Labour Commissioner.  
29th May, 1913.



Kandy, 16th June, 1913

As the following letter from the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary, will be before the General Committee on the 11th July, it is printed here for the consideration of members.

(Signed) JOHN STILL,  
Secretary,  
P. A. of Ceylon.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Colombo, 9th June, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Sir, With reference to correspondence terminating with your letter dated 24th January, 1908, I am directed by the Officer Administering the Government to inform you that the Hon'ble

Mr. W. H. Jackson, Principal Collector of Customs, has suggested that in connection with the port improvement now being effected in accordance with the recommendations of the Harbour Commission, the warehouses to be erected on the land at present in occupation of the Harbour Works Department should be constructed with an upper storey, such storey to be let to the various Produce Firms for tea blending purposes. Mr. Jackson further suggests that in order to encourage the blending industry in Colombo the duty on all foreign teas imported into Ceylon should be remitted. I annex a copy of an extract from his letter to Government.

2. His Excellency desires me to ask for an expression of the views of the Planters' Association of Ceylon on these proposals.

I am, Sir,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,  
for Colonial Secretary.

(Extract referred to.)

5. If this be done, i.e., upper storey warehouse built and a rail connection made from the Port Railway Station, all tea and rubber should be conveyed to the Sea-Front, the produce on arrival to be stacked on the ground floor, and thence shipped direct (if not to be sold locally), or if for local sale to be kept on the ground floor until after sale, when it will be taken over by the buyer and by him removed by lift to the upper floor where he can blend or sort it in any way he wishes, and then by lift transfer it to the barges on the sea-side of the warehouses for shipment. The upper storey being rented to the various Produce Firms.

6. At the same time the time has now come, in my opinion, to admit all teas to the Colony free of duty, these warehouses would then become big blending warehouses and the Port a great central tea market.

#### "ORDINANCE 9 OF 1909."

We publish below extracts from a judgment by Mr. Justice Sampayo which brings to light the somewhat remarkable, and, we imagine, hitherto unknown fact, that the Superintendent of an estate is criminally liable if he does not pay the wages of his coolies in accordance with the provisions of Ordinance No. 9 of 1909, "even though he may not have been supplied by his principal with funds." With all due respect to Mr. Justice Sampayo's judgment we cannot believe that it was ever "the intention of the Legislature to create such liability"—one that the Judge himself characterises as "illogical and harsh."

That the Legislature had no such intention seems to us fairly clear, as in default of payment of the fine that may be imposed, the Superintendent cannot be imprisoned (as is usually the case), but the fine must be recovered from the estate "in the manner provided by Section 23 of the Medical Warrants Ordinance, 1880."

Neither is imprisonment allowed even on a second or subsequent conviction. As the law stands at present, however, either intentionally or unintentionally, the Superintendent of an estate has been placed in the position of having, at any time, to produce a large sum of money—for the payment of which he is in no way responsible either civilly or morally—or to run the risk of a conviction on a criminal charge.

It is about as illogical as it would be to make a Bank Manager liable for dishonouring a cheque on an overdrawn account, or the Appu responsible for the payment of his master's beef-book!

The law seems not only harsh, but once again to have proved itself to be a "hass" and should be amended.

Mr. Justice Sampayo delivered judgment to-day in a Panwila case: Solla Malay, head kangani, of St. John's Hill, Madulkelle, charged Vythilingam pulley, Superintendent, with failing to pay his coolies for February. Accused alleged he was neither Superintendent nor Proprietor, but only the V. A. The Magistrate fined him Rs. 50. Mr. Arulanandan argued his appeal.

#### AN INTERESTING JUDGMENT ON THE POINT.

His Lordship's judgment is as follows:—

The question is whether the accused is liable to be prosecuted for the non-payment. . . . . The conductor and kangani of the estate, who gave evidence, say . . . . . that they looked upon the accused as the Superintendent from January, 1913. He directed their work and paid the wages of the coolies for January, and one of these men even says that the accused came to the estate in January and called all the coolies together and told them that he was Superintendent. . . . . The evidence taken as a whole leads to the conclusion that he actively managed the estate during the period in question and had the supervision and disposal of the services of its labourers, and I think he should be regarded as the chief person in charge of the estate. It remains to consider whether he is criminally liable for the non-payment of the wages of the labourers. In the Full Court case of "Dunbar v. Robson" (1905, 5 Tambyah, 58), the point was whether a Superintendent could be said to take a cooly "into his service or employment" so as to be civilly liable under section 20 of the Principal Ordinance No. 11 of 1863, and incidentally the Court had to consider the question whether the Superintendent was the person liable to pay the wages of the coolies. The Ordinance No. 13 of 1889 did not contain any express provision as to who should pay the wages, and the Court held that, notwithstanding the definition of the word "employer" for certain purposes, the common law relation of the Proprietor and the Superintendent as principal and agent untouched, that the contract of service of the labourers was with the proprietor through his agent, the Superintendent, and that therefore it was the proprietor and not the Superintendent that was liable to pay the wages. But this was before the enactment of the amending Ordinance No. 9 of 1909. Now the substituted section 6, subsection 1, provides that

"IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF EVERY EMPLOYER TO  
PAY THE WAGES

of the labourer in his employment, etc.," and subsection 7 enacts a penalty for failure to do so. I think these and the various other subsections of the substituted section 6 use the word "employer" in the sense of the definition in section 2, and supply what was found to be wanting at the date of the decision referred to. Consequently a Superintendent or chief person in charge, though he is not master of the coolies in the legal sense as decided in that case, is nevertheless bound to pay the wages of the labourers, on his principal's estate and is

CRIMINALLY LIABLE IF HE FAIL TO DO SO,

even though he may not have been supplied by his principal with funds. This may be illogical and harsh, but it seems to be the intention of the Legislature to create such liability. The accused in this case

PROTESTS THAT HE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE

FINANCIAL SIDE

of the estate, and it is quite evident that the failure to pay the wages of the labourers was due to the inability or neglect of Mrs. Carthigaser to supply him with funds. In my opinion he was rightly convicted, but the circumstances should be taken into consideration in judging of the gravity of the offence. It is just to recognise the fact that

THE OFFENCE IS A TECHNICAL ONE

by modifying the maximum penalty of Rs. 50 imposed in this case. I affirm the conviction, but reduce the sentence to a fine of Rs. 10.



## Miscellaneous

Gartmore,  
Maskeliya,  
Ceylon,  
1st June, 1913.

THE EDITOR,  
The Planters' Gazette,  
Kandy.

Sir,

In your "Editorial Notes" in the "P.G." for May, you refer to childbirth and its effect on the labour supply.

In the "Coffee days" most report forms had a space set aside in them in which the condition of the labour force as regards health was recorded, also the births and deaths. Since the days of Companies this seems to have been discontinued, one sees few forms giving such information. Vital statistics are the best indication of the condition of a community or estate as regards health, and should appear in every report form.

Where you have births in excess of deaths, then it may be taken for granted that the health of the labour on the estate is fairly good, but given the usual proportion of sexes, and you have deaths in excess of births, then there is "something rotten."

A general and good excess of births over deaths means an automatic increase of the labour supply, and, as you say, that would make us less dependent on India. Such a state of things is surely not unattainable.

Yours faithfully,

R. MACLURE.

Sogama Estate,  
Pussellawa,  
30th May, 1913.

THE EDITOR,  
The Planters' Gazette,  
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

The gentlemen who have drawn up the latest proposals of the Proprietors' Labour Federation are to be congratulated on at last devising a scheme, which, if universally adopted, will go far towards solving the vexed labour question, in a fair and equitable manner, and which ought to appeal to those who advocate the total abolition of debt, and those who object to writing off a single cent, equally.

The existing scheme has failed dismally, and was bound to fail as it was not equitable, and did not command sufficient support.

As long as a considerable body of employers stood out of the scheme, the limit was a failure, as gangs wishing to migrate from one federated estate to another, in lieu of doing so in one

step, utilized the non-federated estates as a half-way house, and got two so called sillery endums, instead of one, paid to the kangany; a highly profitable piece of business on his part.

On the other hand, had the federation been complete, it would have acted unfairly on any gang with a debt above the limit, which was suffering unfair treatment, and wished to leave its estate, as it would not have been able to do so, without repudiating its debt, and giving notice, and earning a stigma thereby.

The proposed scheme will kill the sillery endum business outright, encourage coast recruiting, etc., and is open to no objection on the plea of unfairness.

It is very doubtful, however, whether it will become really effective, unless it is given legislative force, so as to prevent leakage to the P. W. D. and other Government departments, non-federated estates, and native 10-acre gardens, etc.

As a basis, however, with which to approach the Government for the necessary legislation, fair and necessary to employer and employed alike it is admirable, though minor modifications will doubtless become necessary as experience in working it is gained.

The old tag 'Quot homines tot sententia' is true in every walk of life, and accordingly agreement without legislative force, even on such a scheme as this, is unlikely, or at any rate it is likely to be overridden by certain people if they see anything to gain by doing so, in times of stress; and without legislative authority how are the Penal clauses to be enforced?

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GILBERT FENNING.

Midlands Estate,  
Rattota,  
19th May, 1913.

THE EDITOR,  
The Planting Gazette,  
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

Some four or five years ago a village carpenter of mine was erecting a wire shoot on this estate:

During the operation he unfortunately had his fingers inside a coil of wire rope, which suddenly tightened itself upon the tree it was being attached to. The result was that his four fingers were squeezed off at the middle joints.

I happened to meet him on his way up to my bungalow. He was holding up his arm and explained how the accident occurred. I immediately returned with him to the bungalow and began to dress his wounds preparatory to sending him to the nearest dispensary. There was little blood and he bore the pain extremely well. Suddenly he produced from his pocket all four fingers, and, when I assured him that they could not possibly be replaced, his grief was pitiable to witness. He wept copiously lamenting his fate in agonised tones!

I happened to mention this incident the other day in your presence, Mr. Editor, and in the presence of several other gentlemen, but it was received as a very "tall" yarn.

I did not understand it, for those who know the ordinary jungle native, and have been out in this Island amongst them any length of time, must have come across many such strange incidences. I have no doubt the Assistant who was here at the time (if he sees this) will corroborate my statement. I will, however, vouch for the above story by signing my name to this letter.

Yours faithfully,

E. MANSALLE LE FEUVRE.

[Mr. Le Feuvre need have no fear that his story will not be believed. The occurrence was however a very remarkable one, and quite sufficiently extraordinary to justify its publication here.—Ed.]

THE EDITOR,  
The Planting Gazette,  
Kandy, 24th June, 1913.

Sir,

SIR W. D. GIBBON.

\* It may interest your numerous readers to learn that the G.O.M. attains his 76th birthday on the 22nd July, and is

still going strong. He and Lady Gibbon reside at Hathaway Cottage, Surrey Road, Bournemouth West.

CLAUDE VANDERWALL.

[We wish him many happy returns of the day.—Ed.]



Exhibition Offices,  
75, Chancery Lane (Holborn),  
London, W.C., 23rd May, 1913.

The SECRETARY,  
Planters' Association of Ceylon,  
Victoria Commemoration Buildings,  
40 & 41, Ward Street,  
Kandy, Ceylon.

Dear Sir,

Kindly find herewith particulars of trophies that have been offered by the Rubber Growers' Association, London, in connection with the next Rubber Exhibition, of which I sent you prospectus the other day. Many of these trophies are important to all rubber-producing countries as well as to Manufacturing Countries.

Mr. Henry C. Pearson of America is offering a thousand dollar Silver Cup for the best means of extracting the latex from the wild trees of the Hevea, Manihot and Castilleja species; by the best means he implies one that is relatively of the greatest value. This is important to Brazil, Mexico and Plantations of the East, and other rubber countries of the world. In all, trophies to the value of £1,500 are being presented for competition for the better production of the crude rubber, and also several trophies for the manufacturing section.

Yours truly,

(Signed) STAINES MANDERS.

The Committee of the Rubber Growers' Association have decided to offer the following trophies for the Rubber Exhibition, to be held in London, June, 1914.

1. That the Rubber Growers' Association Medals be offered for the best commercial samples of Plantation Rubber exhibited in the following classes:—  
CLASS 1. Crepe.  
CLASS 2. Smoked Sheet.  
CLASS 3. Assorted invoice, embracing No. 1 Rubber and Scrap Grades.

NOTE.—Samples entered for competition to be wharf-drawn samples, in each case representative of a break or invoice of not less than 50 cases of Rubber, and such samples must be certified by the Wharfingers as having been drawn within three months of the opening of the Exhibition. The awards to be given on the judgment of the Standard Qualities Committee of the Rubber Trade Association of London.

2. That a Gold Medal be given by the R.G.A. for the best exhibit connected with Plantation Rubber grown in the Middle East, to be awarded by Judges to be appointed by the R.G.A.
3. A prize of £50 and a Gold Medal to be given by the R.G.A. for what is adjudged to be the most valuable improvement connected with the Collection or

Preparation of Plantation Rubber (open only to Managers or Assistants on Estates), such improvement to have been introduced between the 1st July, 1913, and the 31st March, 1914, at which latter date all claims must have been lodged with the R.G.A. in London. These awards to be given by Judges to be appointed by the R.G.A.:

4. That the R.G.A. Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals be given for the three best exhibits of Rubber-flooring in Tile or Sheet form. Open to Manufacturers of any country.
5. That the R.G.A. Gold Medal be given for the exhibit composed of the greatest variety of articles made from Rubber for commercial and domestic purposes. Open to Manufacturers of any country.
6. That a prize of £50 and a Gold Medal be given for the discovery and application of such new use for Plantation Rubber as may be adjudged the most valuable; special consideration being given to the weight of the Rubber, which such application is likely to consume.

### CEYLON ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1912-1913 TO BE LAID BEFORE THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 12TH DAY OF JUNE, 1913.

The number of Members on the Roll is 217 as against the same number last year.

For the second year in succession there has been no leading question, connected with Ceylon, calling for the intervention of the Association.

The Committee has recently received from the Ceylon Department of Agriculture, Peradeniya, the report of the Committee appointed in February last by the Board of Agriculture "to arouse public interest in the question of a College of Tropical Agriculture and to point out the advantages of Ceylon as a site for such a College."

A strong Committee, representative of all races and classes, has been formed locally to advocate the claims of Ceylon in this matter, and invitations have been issued to 15 gentlemen in this country to serve on a London Committee. Among those invited are the President and Secretary of this Association. A resolution will be submitted at the Annual Meeting approving of the subject in view and of the acceptance by the Officials of the Association of the invitation.

Sir Henry McCallum and Professor Wyndham R. Dunstan, of the Imperial Institute, in letters to *The Times*, have recently urged with much force the paramount claims of Ceylon as compared with competing countries.

An appeal made by the President, in December last, to Ceylon Proprietors in this country, to support the Ceylon Nursing Association by regular annual subscriptions of Rs. 15 for each estate met with some success. Favourable replies have been received in the case of 121 estates, and of these 69 had not previously subscribed. It is hoped that this may be a substantial aid in securing for Europeans in Ceylon the advantages of skilled nursing.

The dinner given on 16th November last at Prince's Restaurant, as a farewell to Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C.M.G., the retiring Colonial Secretary, and as a welcome to his successor, Mr. R. F. Stubbs, was well attended and was in all respects successful.

It is proposed to ask Sir Henry McCallum, G.C.M.G., on his retirement from the Governorship of Ceylon, to become an Honorary Life Member of the Association. The appointment of his successor as Governor is awaited with much interest.

The deaths during the year include the names of Mr. W. S. T. Saunders, a Member of the Committee; of Mr. Channing Esdaile; of Mr. F. S. Rasleigh, all names well known for years past in Ceylon, and of Mr. Herbert S. Parker.

A commission was given to Mr. Patry, R.B.A., to paint a replica of his portrait of the Secretary, presented to the latter by Ceylon friends on the occasion of his golden wedding. The replica now hangs in the Association room.

Thanks are due to Mr. J. McKean for presenting to the Association a copy of "Commerce in Tea," and to Mr. R. W. Jenkins for one of "Ceylon in the Fifties and Eighties."

The Report of the Tea and Produce Committee and the Accounts for the past year are appended to this Report.

REPORT OF THE TEA AND PRODUCE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1912-1913.

The Committee has held three Meetings during the year. Mr. F. Crosbie Roles, the Commissioner for Ceylon, at the International Rubber Exhibition, held last year in New York, favoured the Committee with an interesting address thereon. He reported that the name of Ceylon Rubber is already so well-known throughout the United States as to render advertising unnecessary. The main point on which he laid stress as essential for securing the maintenance of the good name of the product in the American market was the necessity of keeping the quality of each lot of Rubber even. Hitherto the practice of transferring the Rubber in London into larger packages before export to the United States has led to much unevenness.

The Exhibition was successful, and the American manufacturer had the opportunity of having his attention drawn to plantation rubber, which will doubtless result in good.

Another International Rubber Exhibition is announced to be held in London in 1914. But it is understood that it will not be supported by the Ceylon Government, and representation thereof will be left to private enterprise.

Tea maintains its strong position in the markets of the world and, although the average price of the Ceylon leaf in London in 1912 was slightly lower than in 1911, it seems probable that in the current year it may exceed that of either of those years.

On the question of the Coast Advances it is to be regretted that the resolution passed at the Annual Meeting of the Association last year, recommending Ceylon Proprietors to join the Labour Federation, met with the little response. The position is in no way improved, and it



\* remains to be seen whether the last step of the Federation in annulling the Rs. 40 limit will strengthen its ranks.

The Committee recommends the Association to continue to co-operate with the Labour Federation in Ceylon and to consider any proposal the Federation may suggest, especially with regard to the recruiting from the coast, which the Committee considers the best way out of the difficulty.

The Committee wishes to congratulate the Ceylon Planters' Association on the appearance of the *Planting Gazette*, and hopes for a long and useful career for this spirited venture.

#### Extract from the British North Borneo Herald:—

AN interesting and instructive report by Dr. T. E. A. Ferguson of Demerara, British Guiana has come to hand. The report deals with the measures taken by Dr. Ferguson to eradicate Malaria and Ankylostomiasis from certain sugar estates in the neighbourhood of Demerara. Dr. Ferguson states that when he took over the Medical administration of the district in 1904 he found the latter disease exceedingly prevalent on the estates. The majority of the coolies employed there harboured the parasite and deaths were distressingly frequent. Dr. Ferguson was occupied for some years ridding them, by the use of thymol and other anthelmintics, of their more dangerous degrees of infection. Having been, to a considerable extent, successful in effecting this object, he determined, to use his own expressive phrase, to execute a frontal attack on the disease. Some practical and inexpensive method of doing this had to be evolved, and in November, 1908, Dr. Ferguson began to experiment on a few willing subjects. Ten grains of thymol were administered every night for a period

of many weeks. This moderate dose of the drug was found to have no ill effects upon the patients who were able to carry on their ordinary occupation without inconvenience. At the end of four months it was discovered that they were entirely free from the disease. Gradually an ankylostome census of every coolie on the estates from the age of 5 years upwards was organised. Microscopical examinations were made in every case and immediately an individual was found to be suffering in the slightest degree, that person's name was entered upon the "Thymol List," and he began at once to take 10 grains of the drug every night, working as usual. From time to time batches of coolies were examined, found to be cured and removed from the list. In the opinion of Dr. Ferguson, the system has only to be carried out accurately and diligently, and in due time the disease will have disappeared entirely.

In April, 1910, Dr. Ferguson turned his energetic mind to the question of Malaria. He commenced with the children. A census of their spleens was taken and complete lists prepared of those in whom this organ was enlarged or normal as the case might be. They were then all placed upon daily doses of quinine. Spleenic censuses were taken repeatedly, and quinine doses regulated accordingly. The result was that malarial attacks among the children practically ceased, and the condition of their spleens very considerably improved. Among the coolies generally there was a marked reduction of the number of cases and of deaths from malaria.

It is to be observed that Dr. Ferguson has invented no new serum, used no new drug, made no startling scientific discovery, but merely proved once again the inestimable value of method and attention to detail.

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